



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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26 September 1991

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Cameroon

Unrest Following Arrest of Opposition Leaders

AB2509145591 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 24 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In Cameroon, the government is taking further action against the opposition as part of a long-running battle between the two sides in which the opposition has been campaigning to force President Paul Biya to call a national conference to decide the country's future. Yesterday, the opposition claimed that the police had broken up a pro-democracy demonstration in Douala and arrested a number of people. Now, there have apparently been further arrests. From Douala Henry Currilack telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] Five more opposition leaders were arrested today in Douala as they were holding a public meeting. Those arrested include Samuel Eboua, chairman for the National Union for Democracy and Progress Party and president of the Directorate of Opposition Parties. Today's public meeting was to protest against the arrest of the secretary general of the directorate, Mr. Jean-Jacques Ekindi, who promised in Bamenda over the weekend to spearhead political activism in Douala.

While the leaders were addressing a crowd, truck loads of Gendarmes arrived on the scene and ordered the leaders to stop the meeting. They refused and asked the militants to sit down. The Gendarmes then used teargas and water cannons to disperse the crowd. The leaders were forced into trucks and whisked away to the Gendarmerie Headquarters in Douala.

Meanwhile, members of the opposition converged at the police station where Mr. Ekindi is locked up and proceeded to sing antigovernment songs, demanding the immediate release of their leaders. The Gendarmes fired at the crowd and the mother of Ekindi was slightly wounded.

Throughout the night, sporadic gunshots could be heard in some quarters of Douala. This morning, Gendarmes ransacked the home of Mrs. Ekindi's mother and beat up the old woman. [end recording]

Opposition Leader Comments

AB2509150091 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] [Medome] There is tension in Douala, in Cameroon, where another opposition leader, Samuel Eboua, was arrested this morning while he was trying to get information about the fate of another opponent, Jean-Jacques Ekindi, who was arrested yesterday. Samuel Eboua, who recalled, is the leader of the National Union for Democracy and Progress, UNDP, and chairman of the Directorate of Opposition Parties. We

also have on the line in this newscast, Bello Bouba, President Paul Biya's prime minister from 1982 to 1983, and founding member of the UNDP. For long hours, people were not sure about Samuel Eboua's arrest. Can you confirm this?

[Bouba] Yes. We confirm Mr. Eboua's arrest and that of a certain number of political party leaders. As you know, yesterday Mr. Ekindi, chairman of the Progress Movement, MP, and secretary general of the Directorate of Opposition Parties, was arrested. As far as I know, he has not been released yet. Mr. Eboua and a certain number of opposition leaders came to Douala to get information about the reasons for Mr. Ekindi's arrest and were in turn arrested.

[Medome] It can be observed that President Paul Biya has maintained his firmness and refusal to convene a national conference. What do you intend to do after these arrests?

[Bouba] All the opposition parties condemn these arrests. They are contrary to President Biya's statement concerning their willingness to promote dialogue. We can observe that instead of holding dialogue, they are rather responding to the demands of the Cameroonian public opinion by arrests and repression. We think that this is not the right way to restore dialogue and start democracy in Cameroon in good conditions and bring social peace to Cameroon.

We ask for their immediate release. We think that without their release, no one, apart from the government, will be able to account for what can happen. Today, spirits are so high in Cameroon that we fear for the worse. We therefore feel that it is not too late for President Biya to react favorably by releasing them.

[Medome] Mr. Bello Bouba, my last question: How can you explain this deep difference between the opposition and President Paul Biya, whom you served as prime minister? I am asking you this question because you know Paul Biya well.

[Bouba] Yes, I can affirm that I know Mr. Biya and I am really astonished that instead of seeking dialogue and responding to the people's aspirations, once again, he is responding with repression. He has always told me that he was open to dialogue. I do not know if it is the power he is wielding that has made him a prisoner of this stance or if he is a prisoner of his associates, as some say. I think, however, that he can still control the situation and handle current events in such a way as to restore not only dialogue but peace to the country.

Opposition Leaders Released

AB2509161591 Paris AFP in French 1024 GMT
25 Sep 91

[Text] Douala, 25 Sep (AFP)—According to an informed source in Douala this morning, Cameroon opposition leaders, among them Jean-Jacques Ekindi and Samuel Eboua who were arrested Monday and Tuesday in

Douala, the economic capital of Cameroon, were released last night. A dozen people have been released. According to a good source, this measure is due to the intervention of the French Government. According to informed sources, these releases sprang from a recurrence of tension Tuesday in Douala where the forces of order had used firearms against demonstrators.

According to witnesses, Ekindi and Eboua, as well as their entourage, were violently beaten at the time of their arrest. Both Ekindi's wife and mother were also victims of mistreatment on the part of the military.

John Fru Ndi, leader of the Social Democratic Front (SDF), announced his intention to come to Douala today to show his solidarity with the prisoners. Ekindi was apprehended Monday when he tried to demonstrate in the city streets. Eboua was, in turn, arrested Tuesday when he intended to protest the former's arrest. About 40 people were arrested along with them.

Further on Release

LD2609050891 Paris Radio France International
in French 1230 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] Two killed and dozens injured by the Army in Douala is the toll of yesterday's riots in the Cameroonian economic capital. Several people were arrested, opposition leaders among them. Some of these leaders—among them Samuel Eboua, the opposition coordination spokesman—were released. Samuel Eboua spoke to Sophie Malibeu:

[Begin recording] [Eboua] Jean-Jacques Ekindi was released, as were Maitre Tchoungang, Anicet Ekane, Gustave Essaka, and I. There were 24 of us altogether. Leaders of parties or associations were released last night, and assurances were given that other militants, simply militants, would be freed this morning, so we will check if they were all freed this morning.

[Malibeu] How were you detained?

[Eboua] As I told you, the conditions were not soft at all. No difference was made between the vandals picked up in the streets and political parties leaders. We were gathered in the same cells under conditions which you can imagine.

[Malibeu] What does the opposition intend to do?

[Eboua] It will not give up. The opposition demands holding a sovereign national conference. I believe that as soon as President Biya deems necessary this sovereign national conference, the tension, which does not stop raising now, will fall again. [end recording]

Incidents took place in Bertoua, eastern Cameroon. Several people were arrested after scuffles started when demonstrators attempted to prevent cabs from operating.

Further on Violence, Arrests

AB2509214591 Yaounde CRTV Radio Network
in English 1800 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] Thousands of pupils and students are scheduled to resume school tomorrow after some three months of holidays amidst calls of boycott from seekers of a national conference. The spillover from political stalemate has led to added tension in all major towns like Douala, Bafoussam, Bamenda, Maroua, and Bertoua. However, some of the political leaders, who have come to our newsroom, say the decision to boycott the start of a new school year may make the future of the children worse than it could have been.

Meanwhile, the ghost [as heard] has continued to take its toll in Douala. This time it has been characterized by resurgence of violence. James Atcha Nyifontchem, our correspondent on the beat, now reports from Douala:

[Begin recording] As we returned from our investigations on the preparation of the new school year, we noted that the ghosts have taken on the streets and some quarters of Douala. The presence of the ghosts led to the arrest of the secretary general of the Directorate of the Opposition Parties, Mr. Jean-Jacques Ekindi. Mr. Jean-Jacques Ekindi is the leader of the newly created Progressive People's Front which has been trying to launch its activities but has faced a number of interruptions. The secretary general of the Directorate of the Opposition Parties accuses the public administration for not allowing them to hold their meetings, while the CPDM [Cameroon People's Democratic Movement] is being allowed to hold meetings regularly. Before Mr. Jean-Jacques Ekindi went to the streets with a handful of youths, the launching of his party, Movement Progressiste [as heard], has been interrupted.

The confusion, according to reliable sources, laid on the fact that Mr. Jean-Jacques Ekindi's party was legalized but never officially announced in the media like the previous parties, and sources add that the security forces were not well informed of the legality of the Progressive Movement Party. A few seconds after Mr. Jean-Jacques Ekindi's arrest he revealed to the press that it was deplorable that the government was recognizing political parties but not allowing them the liberty to operate freely. In Mr. Jean-Jacques Ekindi's words, we are not allowed to walk. No meetings, no rallies, no (?consultations) at any level. This is impossible. According to Mr. Jean-Jacques Ekindi, the public peaceful march was nonviolent until the security forces dispersed them at the level of Hotel Nde at [word indistinct] Douala, Monday [23 September] afternoon. He told the press that either the government allowed the political parties to carry out their activities or it could put them in jail at once so that the public can know that there are no opposition parties in the country. Mr. Ekindi does not see justice in the interruptions of meetings organized by the legalized political parties, while the ruling government is holding rallies under the banner of CPDM across the nation.

The opinion put forward by observers in Douala holds that the more arrests of political authorities in the economic city is reviving the ghost which was almost asleep. The political leaders of the opposition, on hearing that the secretary general of the directorate is under arrest, have organized themselves in a group to negotiate for Mr. Ekindi's release.

At the time of coming into this studio, there were some indications that the chairman of the directory and president of the National of Development and Progress, Samuel Eboua, has also been arrested, while in consultation with an [word indistinct] supporter and militant, [name indistinct]. During the shooting last night, three persons were reported killed at [words indistinct] Douala. A young man identified as [name indistinct] was shot in the right leg and he died this morning because of the [words indistinct] and still lying in the [word indistinct] quarters. Lots of gunshots have also been reported in other quarters, though no casualties have been reported.

Meanwhile, the street agitations led to massive [word indistinct] arrests this morning and afternoon. [end recording]

Chad

Information Minister Reviews Unrest Situation

LD2509151791 Paris Radio France International
in French 1230 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] There are dozens of dead in northern Chad following unrest in the Army ranks. The Cabinet has met in extraordinary session to consider the situation. Carmen Bader managed to speak with Chadian Information Minister Mahamat Saleh Ahmat, who explained how the unrest started:

[Begin recording] [Ahmat] The first unrest was in Bardai at the end of August. This unrest was caused by the local official in Bardai and resulted in seven dead and 13 injured. The first attackers were chased to the Libyan border where they were intercepted. Later, on 18 September, a commission carrying the payroll for the soldiers which was going to Zoumri was attacked. Its members were held hostage, and the money it was carrying was stolen. Finally, on 20 September, the same assailants attacked the Zoumri battalion coming from Bardai. That is where the second attack, which killed 42 and injured several, took place.

The military who revolted in Zoumri, who still hold hostage the commission members and the injured as well as family members, are still dug in in Zoumri. Since then, talks have begun to reach a peaceful solution, as far as this is possible.

[Bader] Who led the revolt?

[Ahmat] He is Alachi Mandeye, a former agent in Habre's secret police who left Ndjamenai to come here to lead the attack. This Alachi Mandeye is an agent sent by the former dictator's supporters, who are now mostly in Nguigmi in

Niger. Alachi was here in Ndjamenai and he was able to go to Zoumri. A mission is now in Bardai and maintains contact with Zoumri and attempts to find a solution.

The second thing is precisely this unrest orchestrated from Nguigmi via Ndjamenai by the supporters of the former dictator. We want to discriminate and not blame everybody. There might be just demands and agitators who come to disrupt what we are doing. [end recording]

Casualty Toll Given

AB2509225191 Ndjamenai RNT Radio in French
1900 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] There is tension in the Borgou-Ennedi-Tibesti [BET] area in Tibesti where 42 have died and many others wounded; 13.6 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs were snatched from the team, which was held hostage at Zoumri on 18 September 1991. The perpetrators of this robbery against the property of the Army are Alachi Diori, Alachi Mandeye, and Ousmane Sale. This is not publicity for these criminals. Chadians should know about this so tomorrow they do not try to become ministers of this and that, as if this country is condemned to be managed by looters.

The government has met on this issue to take the necessary measures, but the government should not make the mistake of setting up nor increasing the police force, as it were, to face up to such a situation. The reorganization of the Army must be done rigorously, efficiently, and clearly. The democratization process must also continue, the government said. That is the essential thing. We cannot add to that.

But what does the man in the street, to whom the government has appealed to help it to move ahead, think about this? Here are some views recorded by Malloum Sare:

[Begin recording] [First unidentified speaker] We need [words indistinct] to work for the country and not incidents like this. We do not need war, but we need to develop the country. This situation has been favored by the system insofar as wrongdoers have been rehabilitated and even have parties. How can one admit that these kinds of things occur? [passage indistinct]

It is always an infernal cycle. We know individuals who have [words indistinct], who are at this very moment omnipotent in the current system. So what can we expect? We remain the eternal victims. Something should be done immediately to stop this kind of thing because things have to end there. [passage indistinct]

[Second unidentified speaker] As to the civil war which has started again, we are not interested in it. All Chadians have to find a solution to that, otherwise things will not be good at all. We just finished the war, and yet war breaks out again. It is not at all a desirable situation.

[Third unidentified speaker] The situation in Tibesti, of which the Cabinet spoke, is a serious situation. We simply think that the authorities must make urgent decisions to counter the enemies' actions, because Chad wants to live in peace and not always (?be torn by) war, war, war, war, which has only succeeded in destroying us, in taking us backward, for many years. It is a very regrettable situation. It is a very good thing that the government has already taken measures which we, of course, want to see put into practice. [end recording]

Yes tolerance, as far as we know, is a cardinal virtue. Should it then be thought or believed that the policy of forgiveness and tolerance preached by head of state Colonel Idriss Deby has necessarily been a bad thing? That is not easy to affirm, but to think that certain compatriots, guided by the policy of filling their pockets, have just abused such praiseworthy provisions, cannot in any way be doubted, as Salomon Lamy Ngama Ngatha explains:

[Begin recording] The situation of rebellion created at Zoumri in Tibesti constitutes a serious threat to the ongoing democratic process in our country. The military (?agitation) of Tibesti is the work of some agents of the infamous [words indistinct] which has made it possible for political police of the former days to return to the country thanks to the open arms and reconciliation policy pursued by the Patriotic Salvation Movement [MPS] since it came to power. Unity and national reconciliation are cardinal virtues of democracy. If the MPS, which has set out to restore democracy, could not break the rule, then no one can be an exception to the rule.

It is in this context that many compatriots, individually and in groups, have returned to the country, without any account being asked of them concerning their political past or on their management of public assets. So how can one understand that some of these individuals—yesterday the butchers of the Chadian people, professional torturers, rehabilitated in the name of national unity—should abuse the good faith of the new authorities? This is nothing other than a betrayal of trust, of the policy of peace, which is the safeguard for a people who have for a long time been humiliated, trampled upon, and martyred. The MPS and the government, by wanting to prioritize dialogue, have shown trust in the capacity of the Chadian to resolve all the socioeconomic problems by this pacific way.

How can one understand and explain this resurgence of the dialogue of the bayonet, of gunfire, the preferred method of some of our compatriots, to whom it is the only way of arriving at the leadership of the state and to satisfy their dark plans? Times have changed. The Chadian people of today, prouder and resolutely determined, are committed to live in an era of peace to build their fatherland, build with devotion the future of their children, in this new era of recovered freedom. May the former demons of division, the [words indistinct],

unscrupulous manipulators of Kalashnikovs and bayonets no longer come to compromise the ongoing democratic process, and which all Chadians support unconditionally with an iron determination. May they return home, okay, but not in confusion, marked by diabolical political intentions that would plunge the Chadian people, who have suffered too much already, into a new bloodbath once again. Tolerance must not rule out vigilance. The government, which is democratic and good, must permanently (?watch) to ensure that the democratic process embarked upon does not become compromised. [end recording]

Congo

Cabinet To Study Influx of Foreigners From Zaire

AB2609101591 Brazzaville Voix de la Revolution
Congolaise Network in French 1830 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] An extraordinary cabinet meeting was held today at which the only issue discussed was the situation created in Congo by the events in Zaire. Here is a report by Information Minister Guy Menga.

[Begin recording] Following his address to the first ordinary session of the Higher Council of the Republic, Andre Milongo, prime minister and head of Cabinet, convened an extraordinary cabinet meeting today. Only one item featured on the agenda of this exceptional meeting: the situation created in Congo following the serious events that have been unfolding in Zaire over the past few days. The cabinet dwelled on the various problems that have arisen in our country, particularly its capital Brazzaville, in regard to hosting people in transit.

After recalling that our country already faced a similar situation in July 1960, one week after the proclamation of the independence of our neighbor which was then called Congo-Kinshasa, the cabinet reaffirmed its determination to do everything necessary to welcome and assist the men, women, and children who have been obliged to stay in our country. While it may not be possible to offer them all the comfort expected in such circumstances, Congo, faithful to its tradition as a land of hospitality and fraternity, is already committed to associating itself with the large-scale humanitarian operation that has been occasioned by this situation.

In order to give a more concrete nature to this hospitality and imprint our solidarity with a more human character, the cabinet unanimously decided that the prime minister and head of government, will pay a visit to our guests at some sites where they are being housed temporarily.

Gabon

Democratic Opposition Leader Condemns Violence

AB2509191591 Libreville Domestic Service
in French 1830 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] The Coordination of the Democratic Opposition in Gabon, COD, this afternoon held a news conference

on political violence following recent clashes between followers of the National Lumberjacks Rally of the Gabonese opposition and those of the Gabonese Democratic Party, now in power.

In his preliminary statement, (Jean-Pierre Nzonge-Nguema), the leader of the National Recovery Movement [Morena], who is also the chairman of COD, condemned what he called maneuvers aimed at preventing the democratic opposition to take root in the country. (Nzonge-Nguema) expressed the wish to see those responsible for the acts of violence punished. He notably called for their resignation from the positions of responsibility which they are now holding. Let us listen to (Jean-Pierre Nzonge-Nguema) speaking to our correspondent Eugene Elan.

[Begin (Nzonge-Nguema) recording] Out of respect for our emerging democracy and the preservation of the threatened civil peace, we think that the immediate resignation of those responsible is necessary. Furthermore, and for the same reasons, individuals who are a shame for our country's good image should no longer be associated with national affairs. In more precise terms, they should be dismissed from their positions immediately. [end recording]

Rwanda

Rebels Allegedly Preparing New Offensive

EA2509185091 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 1800 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] At a time when Rwanda is increasing meetings and talks aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the conflict and preparing the voluntary repatriation of refugees, our aggressor does not stop his tricks aimed at destabilizing the country. As the rebels have never stopped provoking Rwanda, they are now preparing a large-scale attack with the support of their host, Uganda, as affirmed by an NRA [Uganda National Resistance Army] soldier, Corporal Charles Tirguni.

Coming from Kabale, Uganda, Corporal Tirguni is a member of the Fifth Battalion, which left Kampala for Gisoro to support the rebels who are preparing to attack Rwanda through Cyanika. Tirguni himself acknowledged the bravery of the Rwandan Armed forces, affirming that even the NRA [words indistinct] the sole idea of a possible clash. [Words indistinct] Tirguni preferred to escape the day following the arrival of this battalion in Gisoro on 21 September. He was found in the Birunga region in the hands of the Rwandan Armed Forces while he was attempting to return to Kampala.

Zaire

Reportage on Evacuation of Foreigners, Situation

Refugees, Opposition Comment

AB2509145091 London BBC World Service in English 0630 GMT 25 Sep 91

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] With lines to Zaire difficult at the best of times, getting reliable information out of the country has not been easy, but last night Lydia Sysson was monitoring them as they emerged. Here is her report:

[Begin recording] [Sysson] Well the evacuation of foreign nationals from Zaire is now well under way with commercial flights arriving last night in Zimbabwe and South Africa. One of the first people to land in the Zimbabwean capital, Harare, was Edward Lyson, the financial counselor of GECAMINES [General Quarries and Mines Company], the state mining corporation. He left Lubumbashi yesterday afternoon after hearing that his office in Kolwezi had been destroyed. He told me what the situation was like that morning.

[Lyson] What I saw is that on the road there which I normally take from work to my office, I saw the soldiers, well there has been evidence of soldiers on my path, but this time I saw them you know, in actual war gear with their helmets and their rifles and everything and I (?thought it might be that) they are really ready for something now and that is when I figured, you know, it was time to leave Zaire for the time being.

[Sysson] Other refugees from the southeastern province of Shaba have escaped to the safety of neighboring Zambia from where Robin Mackai sent this report:

[Mackai] According to people fleeing into Zambia, trouble flared up in Lubumbashi, Kolwezi, and Likasi in Shaba Province as well as Kisangani in North Zaire Province yesterday morning when soldiers went on a rampage, indiscriminately shooting at people and looting. Soldiers of the 9th Battalion of the Zairian Army went rioting in Lubumbashi, Kolwezi, and Likasi while the 7th Battalion troops in Kisangani were involved in a similar carnage. A Lusaka-based Zairian diplomat, who was in Lubumbashi when the shooting started yesterday morning, told me that he had to flee for his life and was the first person to cross into Zambia at the (Kassimbalesa) border post yesterday afternoon. He said he fled as soon as trouble began at about 1100 on Tuesday morning when heavily armed soldiers entered Lubumbashi and began shooting at people indiscriminately and looting shops.

The diplomat, who wished to remain anonymous, told me that when he ran away, many people had been killed and shooting was still going on around the city. He said, and I quote: It is terrible, the situation is very bad. At the time I talked to him, he had just arrived in Lusaka after

a grueling nine-hour drive from Lubumbashi. He said that French and Belgian troops were being deployed in the trouble-torn Shaba town.

[Sysson] Meanwhile, representatives abroad of the main Zairian opposition party, the UDPF [Union for Democracy and Social Progress] have been swift to condemn the intervention yesterday of French and Belgian troops in Zaire. I spoke late last night to Gilbert Muderatchimanga, the UDPF representative in the United States, who has been in close contact with his colleagues in Kinshasa throughout the crisis.

[Muderatchimanga] The Army has demonstrated by this their movement that cleverly, they dissociated themselves with Mr. Mobutu and now, we see the West coming in just to save Mr. Mobutu, and as the West comes in we see the government, we hear that the government of Mr. Mulumba is going to hold a crisis session; we hear that Mr. Mobutu is going to speak out. So we really condemn this action by the French and the Belgians because to us it seems like they are going there and giving Mobutu some fresh air for him to come back and again abuse the people of Zaire.

[Sysson] The Belgian prime minister, Wilfred Martens, said that his country's forces have moved in to protect Belgian citizens and help those who wish to leave. Professor Philip Ranchion of Antwerp University follows events in Zaire closely. I spoke to him last night and asked if he thought the troops would go too once the evacuation machine is completed:

[Ranchion] No, I do not think so. I do not think so, neither for the Belgians nor for the French, actually. The recent change in policy by the French of the last couple of years has been not to support antidemocratic authoritarian regimes in Africa anymore and to insist on democratization and respect for human rights, and I think the Belgians have more or less the same position. On the other hand, of course, objectively, securing the airport and restoring some law and order in Kinshasa and possibly in other places would objectively, I think, be a support for Mobutu. [end recording]

Restoration of Calm in Kinshasa

AB2509164891 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1230 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] Latest reports from Kinshasa say that calm was restored to this devastated city following two days of madness and looting which did not spare any shop or store. The Zairian radio reports the death of about 18 people. In any case, if calm is said to have been restored, the information is still to be taken with a grain of salt because it could not be confirmed. At this very moment, I have Lucien Parfait Zoungou on the line. Lucien Parfait, we have learned that Kinshasa looks like a sad town, is it true?

[Zoungou] Yes Guillaume Mendome Ze, Kinshasa is a sad town. I had the opportunity to visit this morning in the

helicopter carrying French soldiers stationed in Brazzaville. As you know, while the People's Palace is hosting the extraordinary cabinet meeting under the chairmanship of President Mobutu Sese Seko himself, who hurriedly returned to the capital yesterday morning, the scene is distressing. The streets are almost deserted and the central market looks like an empty soccer stadium. Downtown has been the most affected area with devastated and burned shops and houses set ablaze, including the headquarters of the Popular Movement of the Revolution, the former ruling party, which now looks like a fatherless child. In the Kasavubu quarter, traders have only their tears. The shops of West African nationals and Lebanese have been ransacked, while the Congolese ambassador to Zaire no longer has a means of transportation. His official car has been taken away from him by angry soldiers of the Zairian Armed Forces.

Guillaume, I must also tell you that to feed oneself in Kinshasa has become a miracle. In the Matongue District, people have been mourning the dead. Workers of the Radio and Television Network, who had stopped working since Sunday [22 September], resumed work this morning. One sure thing is that some journalists, beginning with the managing director of the Zairian Broadcasting Corporation, received threatening visitors at home. The French soldiers, who have been in the Zairian capital since yesterday, seem to have calmed down the anger of the Zairian Armed Forces who have returned to their base in dispersed ranks.

At the (Mama Yiem) Hospital, the death and accident register has been put under secrecy. If some Zairian citizens do not speak to the press, I must say that they may be right. The security system setup is threatening. In spite of this climate, some expatriates remain confident. Those who have been in Brazzaville since yesterday think that they will be able to return to Kinshasa in three days.

The extraordinary cabinet meeting may very well result in the imprisonment of some political bigwigs, starting with the defense minister. It must be stressed that the facilities of the Zairian National Bank have been ransacked and that the Zairian military have been asking for a 1,000 percent salary hike. Now the question we should raise, Guillaume, is whether the soldiers, who obviously are members of the Zairian Armed Forces, will get through with it?

French, Belgian Troops in Control

AB2509141591 Paris AFP in English 1358 GMT
25 Sep 91

[By Mario Fiorito]

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, Sept 25 (AFP)—French and Belgian troops took effective control of this battered Zairian capital on Wednesday, after two days of city-wide looting, and assembled hundreds of foreigners for evacuation.

A trip around Kinshasa showed how extensive and widespread the damage was, stretching from the trading districts of the city centre out to the main suburbs. Not a shop, store or warehouse had been spared, windows were smashed, some buildings had been set on fire, and the streets were littered with debris. Diplomats said some European homes in the Binza residential district were ransacked, but there was no physical violence against the owners.

State radio reported that about 15 people had died in the violence. It was unclear whether they were among the soldiers and civilians doing the looting or people who had tried to stop them.

The rioting erupted among troops angry over low pay. President Mobutu Sese Seko blamed political opponents for inciting them. In a radio broadcast overnight he said the devastation caused was a "major setback" to the country's economy.

Order was being maintained by some 900 French and Belgian troops, with backing from units of Mobutu's elite presidential guard who stood guard at public buildings.

More than 700 foreigners, mostly Lebanese traders plus French and Belgians, were gathered at a French college and the French Embassy waiting for evacuation. There was no panic among them, but a lot of bitterness among some of the French and Belgians settled in Zaire for a long time who have lost practically everything in the looting. Some said they were leaving for ever.

The international airport at Ndjili on the city outskirts was in the hands of regular Zairian troops who replaced units at the paratroop training centre where the rioting started. Civilian traffic was still barred. A French contingent took up position there on Wednesday morning.

In Paris, the French Foreign Ministry said a French and a Belgian company of troops were heading to Shaba Province in the southeast to evacuate expatriates because the situation remained "tense and uncertain".

France, Belgium and Portugal sent transport planes to Brazzaville, the Congolese capital across the river from here. The expatriates are being ferried over. French Foreign Ministry spokesman Maurice Gourdault-Montagne explained that the 45 kilometres (28 miles) from Ndjili airport into town were still too unsafe for evacuation that way. He said 40 tonnes of basic food and medicines, plus a surgical unit, would be flown to Brazzaville on Thursday and transferred across the river to Kinshasa for use by the refugees. [passage omitted]

Opposition Leader Comments

AB2509195591 Paris AFP in French 1622 GMT
25 Sep 91

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Kinshasa, 25 Sep (AFP)—Mr. Nguz A Karl-I-Bond, the current chairman of the Sacred Union which brings together Zaire's opposition parties, in an interview with AFP today called for an "immediate convening of a national conference following 23 and 24 September's incidents in Zaire."

The chairman of UFERI [Union of Independent Federalists and Republicans] (component of the Sacred Union) considers these incidents as "very serious". "Such a thing has never happened, since 31 years of independence, and this only calls to mind the gloomy days which followed our independence."

Mr. Karl-I-Bond said he agreed "on one point" with President Mobutu Sese Seko, who said in an address to the nation last night that the democratic process begun in Zaire "is irreversible."

For the current Zairian opposition leader, however, the process should necessarily begin with the "immediate" convening of a national conference "which should not be placed under the irresponsible chairmanship of Mr. Kalonji Mutambay," the chairman of the conference's interim bureau, who was strongly contested by the opposition.

In agreement with other parties forming the Sacred Union, Mr. Karl-I-Bond suggested that the national conference be chaired by a competent and neutral personality, "in the person of Monsignor Laurent Mosengwo Pasinya, the archbishop of Kisangani and chairman of the Episcopal Conference of Zaire."

According to Mr. Karl-I-Bond, the national conference should as a matter of priority adopt a "fundamental act" that will permit the creation of a "public salvation" government which would have the mission to "restore state authority, draw up a draft constitution to be submitted to a referendum, and to organize democratic elections."

"The government, stated Mr. Karl-I-Bond, has proved over the past hours that it was nonexistent." Questioned on the intervention of French and Belgian troops, Mr. Karl-I-Bond stated that the opposition parties "perfectly" understood the humanitarian mission of the intervention, but this should not "in anyway serve to prop up" President Mobutu's regime.

Finally, speaking on the "discretion" shown by the opposition parties—and the government alike—during the two days of looting, Mr. Karl-I-Bond stated that the Zairian radio and television were "confiscated by the government."

Mobutu To Chair Ministers' Meeting

EA2509202691 Bukavu Voix du Zaire in French
1630 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] The head of state, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, was due to chair an extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers today following the bloody events [words

indistinct] the Republic of Zaire has been experiencing [words indistinct] which followed the mutiny of some elements of the Zairian forces who were demanding a raise. Yesterday, the Zairian news agency announced that 18 people had died and around 60 people had been injured by bullets in the city of Kinshasa alone. Yesterday, [words indistinct] the looting of public buildings went up seriously [words indistinct] very important which was put at hundreds of billions of zaire in the capital alone. Among the buildings which were damaged was the residence of the director general [words indistinct] some colleagues were molested [words indistinct].

'Emergency Cabinet Meeting' Held

LD2509235191 Kinshasa Zaire OZRT Television
Network in French 2000 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Report by Banza Mukalay, Zairian information and press minister and Zairian Government spokesman, on an emergency meeting of the Zairian cabinet in Sele on 25 September—recorded]

[Text] As announced in his 24 September radio and television address, Republic President Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko chaired an emergency cabinet meeting on 25 September in Sele. One item was on the agenda: examining emergency measures to be taken following the acts of plundering and vandalism committed in Kinshasa and in some towns of the country 23-24 September 1991 by some elements of the Zairian Armed Forces joined by part of the Zairian population. After recalling the provisional assessment of this catastrophe at the economic, as well as financial and social, level with immediate consequences like unemployment and famine and generally the breakdown of the economic fabric of the country, the head of state asked the government to take the necessary measures to alleviate as much as possible the negative effects of the caused damage. After a lengthy debate, the cabinet took the following measures:

At the security level, a 2000-0500 [1900-0400 GMT] curfew was declared from 26 September 1991 over all of Kinshasa and in all the centers and the interior of the country affected by these events.

The government calls on anybody who unduly possesses a weapon, ammunitions, and military uniforms to hand them back without delay to the military authorities of their military area. In this regard, the government—in the interest of public security—asks the population to denounce whoever does not comply with this measure. At the same time, the government appeals to the patriotism and to the conscience of those who have stolen the property of people to hand it back without delay to the municipal authorities of their area. Law will be applied on the recalcitrants. In any case, the government has already taken all the necessary measures to strengthen the security of persons and their property at the level of nationals, as well as that of foreigners who have chosen Zaire as their second homeland.

At the economic and social level, and despite the negative impact of these events on the customs, fiscal, administrative, and estate income, the government has launched an emergency plan to provide the country with basic food and pharmaceutical products. The necessary resources will be mobilized to implement the said plan.

Furthermore, the government values highly the offers of assistance by some bilateral partners, including France. A mixed commission of the government and [word indistinct] will be set up soon under the chairmanship of the prime minister to assess the damage and to study the measures liable to restore rapidly the economic fabric which was seriously hit. Moreover, to alleviate as far as possible the social burden of the population, the cabinet has decided to maintain until further notice the freeze on the prices of water and electricity. In the same line of concerns, the cabinet has decided to postpone the new school year until 4 November 1991. This return was fixed for 30 September 1991.

As for the situation of the elements of the Zairian Armed Forces, the government confirms—as pointed out by the Armed Forces chief of staff—that necessary measures have been taken to improve their social conditions. However, the cabinet meeting condemned the uncivic and irresponsible behavior of all the authors and their accomplices for the dramatic situation, which is deplored by the whole nation and which made many family breadwinners unemployed.

Along the same line, the government once again calls on the Zairian political class to give proof of more tolerance and an acute sense of responsibilities in its declarations. The government also takes this opportunity to recall to the private written press ethical principles: refraining from relaying calls for violence, civilian disobedience, and insult. This state of affairs has undoubtedly contributed to the explosion of violence.

As announced by the head of the state in his important speech to the nation, the government reiterates its faith in the democratic process under way and expresses the wish that the proceedings of the sovereign national conference continues in a spirit of fraternity, mutual respect, and legality. In this respect, the prime minister has been entrusted with continuing the various discussions he had already started with the leaders of all the political leanings, as well as the leaders of the civil society, to organize a quick resumption and a rational unfolding of the proceedings of the sovereign national conference.

The cabinet praised the patriotism of the members of some public services such as: the water company, the post and telecommunications, the electricity Board, the RVA [expansion unknown], the radio and television, and some medical services which, in this particularly difficult period, have carried out their work in the best possible way.

In conclusion, the cabinet has set up a crisis inner cabinet which comprises the prime minister, four deputy

prime ministers, the foreign minister, the cooperation minister, the national defense minister, the finance minister, the planning minister, the information and press minister, the health minister, the public works minister, and the transport minister. Thank you.

'Sporadic Fire' Still Heard

LD2509203591 *Brusse's La Une Radio Network*
in French 1700 GMT 25 Sep 91

[By Daniel Petri]

[Excerpts] The Belgian and French paratroopers have arrived and calm seems to have returned. Sporadic fire, however, can be heard. Despite the government curfew, Kinshasa inhabitants fear nightfall when the operation will undoubtedly be slightly less efficient. According to some sources, coordination problems between Belgian and French paratroopers are occurring due to Zairian intermediaries. [passage omitted] Belgium has called upon the EC to send urgent food assistance to Zaire. [passage omitted]

We are told that rebel soldiers are heading for Kolwezi. This explains the speed with which Belgian and French paratroopers have been sent to the capital of Shaba. The Belgians, and Westerners in general, are reportedly gathered in Kolwezi ready to be evacuated. In Kisangani and Kamina, the situation is still confused, and in Likasi, some Belgians are reported to have been wounded, but no more information is available on this. [passage omitted]

Foreign Nationals Evacuated

AB2509203291 *Paris AFP in English 1904 GMT*
25 Sep 91

[Text] Kinshasa, Sept 25 (AFP)—The evacuation of hundreds of foreign nationals began Wednesday [25 September] as French and Belgian troops took effective control of Zaire's battered capital.

At least 19 people died and more than 1,000 people were injured in two days of rioting and looting, according to various sources, which erupted after troops went on the rampage angry over low pay.

In the meantime, 11 large U.S. C-141 transport planes landed in France's Toulouse-Blagnac airport to take French troops and materiel on to Zaire, an informed source said.

The Pentagon confirmed the U.S. responded to a French demand and that of other allies so as to guarantee the security of Americans and other foreign nationals in Zaire.

In Paris, the military press service announced that French and Belgian troops landed in Kolwezi, in Shaba Province, 1,500 kilometres (950 miles) southeast of

Kinshasa Wednesday to protect and later evacuate some 650 foreigners, many of whom work in the region's copper mines.

Meanwhile, a trip around Kinshasa showed how extensive and widespread the damage was, stretching from the trading districts of the city center out to the main suburbs.

Not one shop, store or warehouse had been spared, windows were smashed, some buildings had been set on fire, and the streets were littered with debris. Diplomats said some European homes in the Binza residential district were ransacked, but there was no physical violence against the owners.

State radio reported that about 18 people had died in the violence apart from a French soldier caught in machine-gun fire on Tuesday. It was unclear whether most casualties were among the looters or people who had tried to stop them.

The medical charity, *Medicins Sans Frontieres* (Doctors Without Borders) said in Brussels that more than 1,000 people were injured in the rioting in Kinshasa and that most were unable to get to hospitals and clinics for treatment.

President Mobutu Sese Seko blamed political opponents for inciting soldiers. In a broadcast overnight he said the devastation caused was a "major setback" to the country's economy.

The president, who has been accused of foot-dragging on political reform, said seditious pamphlets were distributed among soldiers in Kinshasa military base over the previous three weeks, "inciting soldiers to mutiny, to rebel and to disobey the head of state."

Order was being maintained in the capital by some 900 French and Belgian troops, with backing from units of Mobutu's elite presidential guard who stood guard at public buildings.

More than 700 foreigners, mostly Lebanese traders plus French and Belgians, were gathered at a French college and the French Embassy waiting for evacuation. There was no panic among them, but a lot of bitterness among some of the French and Belgians settled in Zaire for a long time who have lost practically everything in the looting.

The international airport at Ndjili on the city outskirts was in the hands of regular Zairian troops who replaced units at the paratroop training centre where the rioting started. Civilian traffic was still barred.

Two French troop companies were also guarding the airport, while a third protected the French Embassy in the capital, Sirpa said.

France and Belgium sent transport planes to Brazzaville, the Congolese capital across the river from here. A Swissair DC-10 left Zurich late Wednesday to pick up

200 Americans, but a Swiss Government spokesman said there were no current plans to pull out some 250 Swiss, many of whom have crossed to Brazzaville.

Some 300 people, mostly French, crossed the river Tuesday [24 September] and the evacuation was continuing Wednesday with the help of French troops, said the French Foreign Ministry.

A spokesman explained that the 45 kilometres (28 miles) from Ndjili airport into town were still too unsafe for evacuation that way.

He said 40 tonnes of basic food and medicines, plus a surgical unit, would be flown to Brazzaville on Thursday [26 September] and transferred across the river to Kinshasa for use by the refugees.

In Brussels, the Belgian Government said that the evacuation of its 10,500 nationals in Zaire had begun Wednesday. Some 500 Belgian paratroopers arrived in Brazzaville overnight and were running the ferry between Kinshasa and the Congolese capital.

In Lisbon, Defense Minister Fernando Nogueira said that a "mini air bridge" had been set up Wednesday to evacuate Portuguese nationals in Kinshasa.

The rioting came amid uncertainty over the future of a national conference on democratic reforms which was suspended again Friday [20 September] after several false starts.

It is currently paralysed by a dispute over the choice of its chairman, Kalonji Mutambay, who the opposition says is "manipulated by the government".

The French Foreign Ministry on Tuesday blamed the rioting directly on the deteriorating political and economic situation in Zaire and urged Mobutu to "press ahead with essential democratic reforms".

French Defence Minister Pierre Joxe said Wednesday the task of the French troops in Zaire was to protect French nationals and "nothing else."

But Joxe also said the arrival of French forces Tuesday had "restored order very rapidly" in Zaire. He refused to rule out sending more French troops to the central African country.

Committee Says Peace Prevails

EA2609110091 Lubumbashi Voix du Zaire in French
0430 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] The Shaba interim governor, Mr. (Palia Lapadi) yesterday met the Lubumbashi urban commissioner, Mr. (Mulunga Kabwe Seseya). The latter went to give a report to the regional authority on the situation in the copper capital after the panic movement of 24 September. After visiting all Lubumbashi areas, the urban committee noted that peace prevailed in the entire administrative [word indistinct] and that people were freely carrying out their daily work. For security reasons,

Mr. (Mulunga Kabwe Seseya) [words indistinct] a communique on strengthening security measures, notably the banning of gatherings of groups of more than five people in public.

The Lubumbashi urban (?authorities) call for the understanding of the people and at the same time request all traders to reopen their shops as the situation is peaceful in the entire town. The meeting of the Shaba interim governor and the Lubumbashi urban commissioner, who was accompanied by Mr. Mawasadi, head of regional economy and industry division, decided that price controls will be suspended until further notice.

Situation Reportedly 'Chaotic' 26 Sep

AB2609095591 Paris AFP in English 0544 GMT
26 Sep 91

[by Alain Bommelel]

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, Sep 26 (AFP)—Authorities ordered a curfew to take effect Thursday evening in Kinshasa and other riot-torn areas of Zaire as French troops guarded key parts of the capital and oversaw the continuing evacuation of foreign nationals.

Central Kinshasa was calm overnight, the streets virtually deserted after violence Monday and Tuesday in which at least 19 people died and more than 1,000 were injured in rioting and looting by soldiers and civilians.

Three companies of French troops, comprising around 450 men, were Thursday guarding the international airport at Ndjili, the port, strategic access routes and the area around the French ambassador's residence, which has served as a transit centre for around 3,000 foreigners since the outbreak of the violence.

There were also about 500 troops from Belgium, the former colonial power, helping in the evacuation and Belgian authorities in Brussels said an additional 500 soldiers had left late Wednesday for Zaire.

"Our orders are not to fire except in cases of self-defence or to protect the life of foreigners", a French officer said.

The French troops have steered clear of the city's working-class districts. [passage omitted]

The situation in Kinshasa was still chaotic at dawn Thursday, with the damage caused in the rioting making the supply of food and water over the coming days highly problematic. Wholesale and retail stores, boutiques, chemists shops and car dealerships have all been looted by mutinous troops and civilians, according to eyewitness reports by European residents. The French primary school was totally emptied by looters as were many European homes, although the extent of the looting in European neighbourhoods was difficult to determine.

Stocks of weapons and ammunition have also been stolen and rebel troops have been selling weapons to civilians,

French military sources said, expressing fears that insecurity in the Zairian capital would be long-lasting.

On Wednesday around 500 Belgian parachutists were also sent to Kisangani and Kolwezi, capital of the southern copper-producing province of Shaba, where outbreaks of violence were reported.

A French company has also taken up position at Kolwezi, according to French military sources. About 650 foreigners were to be evacuated from the Kolwezi area, many of them employees in copper mining concerns.

In Paris meanwhile, 261 Western nationals arrived from Brazzaville at 3:00 a.m. (0100 GMT) Thursday aboard a specially chartered DC-10. [passage omitted]

Casualty Toll Over 100

*AB2609101291 Paris AFP in English 0937 GMT
26 Sep 91*

[Text] Brussels, Sep 26 (AFP)—Riots in Kinshasa this week left more than 100 people dead and 1,500 wounded, who are still awaiting treatment, the charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders) said Thursday.

A previous toll provided by Zaire's news agency AZAP put the toll at 18 dead and about 60 wounded following riots Monday and Tuesday by mutinous troops, angry about their low pay, and civilians.

Medical teams from Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) saw 45 bodies in morgues in Kinshasa at the Kintambo and Ngawiema hospitals alone, the Belgian branch of the French charity said.

They did not say how many corpses were counted at the Zairian capital's largest hospital, Mama Yemo, but said that 100 wounded were still waiting for treatment there, up from several dozen on Wednesday.

MSF doctors warned that "it will soon be impossible to find a single medication in Kinshasa" because "all the pharmacies were looted."

"There is a danger of famine and the unrest may resume very quickly and even more violently because the capital is having enormous problems getting supplies and food," MSF staff said.

On Wednesday the charity sent a team of six doctors and 30 tonnes of medical equipment to Kinshasa. Nineteen members of the charity's French and Belgian branches are currently working there, the organization said.

Ethiopia

Meles Zenawi To Accept Eritrean Independence

PM2309155091 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
19 Sep 91 p 5

[Interview with President Meles Zenawi by Yusuf Khazim in Addis Ababa; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Khazim] How would you assess the four months that have elapsed since you assumed power?

[Zenawi] Security, food, and democracy are among the fundamental issues to which we have devoted our attention since the the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Forces [EPRDF] entered Addis Ababa on 27 May.

I can say that we have succeeded in firmly establishing security throughout the country and in ending the war that shook the country for three decades. We have also disbanded the 400,000-strong army, keeping a small number in service. We no longer need a large army because our foreign policy is based on the principle of respecting the other states' sovereignty, noninterference in their internal affairs, and developing joint interests with them.

By reducing the Armed Forces we have reduced military spending. So our priorities include feeding our people, a sizable section of whom have long suffered chronic famine. I cannot say that we have provided food security during this short period, but our programs in this regard are proceeding tirelessly, especially in cooperation with governmental and nongovernmental humanitarian organizations.

Regarding democracy, we formed an interim government immediately after the EPRDF entered Addis Ababa to establish security and order. Then we held a national reconciliation conference to which we invited all political forces, influential figures, and representatives of the Ethiopian nationalities. Then we formed the council of representatives—an interim parliament which comprises 81 members representing all the Ethiopian nationalities. Then we formed a new government for a transitional period, and it was agreed by the council of representatives.

The most notable development in the move toward building a democratic society was the issue of the national charter, which upheld the right of all Ethiopian nationalities to determine their own destiny, to protect their own identity and history, to develop their culture, and to use and develop their own language. This is in addition to the nationalities' right to run their own affairs within the known boundaries of their territories and to participate in central government on the basis of freedom and appropriate representation.

These democratic guarantees are valid until general elections are held in two years and until the formation of an ordinary government and the drawing up of a new constitution for the country. [passage omitted]

[Khazim] What is the nature of the relationship between your government and the interim Eritrean government?

[Zenawi] The Ethiopian national conference held in Addis Ababa early in July agreed on the Eritrean people's right to determine their own destiny and to conduct a referendum within a period of two years to determine their political future. Until that referendum is conducted, Eritrea is practicing autonomy and has formed an interim government to run the country's affairs. On that basis the transitional government in Ethiopia deals and coordinate with the Eritrean government in all fields.

[Khazim] To what extent are you entitled to use the Eritrean port of Aseb?

[Zenawi] The use of Aseb port is one of several issues on which we have reached agreement with the Eritrean government. The port is currently under Eritrean management, and it is at the same time a free port open to the Ethiopian Government for receiving and sending goods without paying any tariff. [passage omitted]

[Khazim] If the referendum actually takes place and the Eritrean people decide on independence, will you agree to it?

[Zenawi] Of course we will agree to Eritrea's independence, since the Ethiopian national charter's stipulation in this regard is both frank and clear.

[Khazim] When you entered Addis Ababa was there still Israeli military presence there?

[Meles] Several states, including Israel, had both a military and a civilian presence in Ethiopia, but they all departed before our arrival in the capital. I cannot determine who was there, but I can confirm that there were Israeli experts.

[Khazim] Who will you deal with on the issue of the Ethiopian Jews (Falasha) if Israel asks you to evacuate them?

[Zenawi] Mengistu used the Falasha as a bargaining counter and a means of exerting pressure, allowing some of them to emigrate when he obtained weapons from Israel, but we will not deal with this subject as a political issue. The Falasha are Ethiopian Jewish citizens and what applies to any other citizen applies to them. They have the freedom to move anywhere they want, but we will not deal with the Falasha politically—for instance, by reaching agreements on their mass evacuation.

Aferwerki on France, Egypt, Djibouti Interference

PM2409085091 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
19 Sep 91 p 5

[Interview with Isaias Afewerki, "head of the interim Eritrean government and secretary general of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front," by Yusuf Khazim in Asmara; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Khazim] Why have you not invited the other Eritrean forces to a national conference like that which took place in Ethiopia to determine the Country's future after liberation?

[Afewerki] Because there are no other forces.

[Khazim] But there are the Eritrean Liberation Front and other Eritrean fronts.

[Afewerki] Tell me what is that front? I would like to know. Is it an organization, an individual, or a leadership, and does it exist in the first place?

[Afewerki] Perhaps it has no military presence on the scale of your forces, but it does exist politically.

[Afewerki] Where?

[Khazim] The Eritrean Liberation Front was the first military and political organization on the Eritrean scene.

[Afewerki] I myself was a member of it when it was a small organization. Where is it now? I want to know.

[Khazim] You expelled its elements by force. They were compelled to seek shelter on the border with Sudan, and some of them are now in Arab and Western states.

[Afewerki] All the people you mentioned are individuals who had the opportunity to obtain material support from certain states, and they have no political presence in Eritrea. As for their military presence, that is another matter. We see no presence in Eritrea for any organization except the People's Front. The interim Eritrean government has invited all Eritreans—both groups and individuals—to participate in decisionmaking in the country, and perhaps there were differences or views that differed from ours about how to work to liberate Eritrea. Now Eritrea has been liberated, and this encourages everyone to unite to rebuild our society. We believe that there are no political disputes among the Eritreans, so there is no justification for the presence of political organizations, now that the country has been liberated. [passage omitted]

[Khazim] You said that foreign powers are interfering in Eritrea's internal affairs. Can you identify these powers and say how they are interfering?

[Afewerki] Yes, these powers are France, Egypt, and Djibouti. As for how they interfere, it is a long story. To sum it up: The French have been involved for some time in the so-called Afars issue (the Afars are a tribe living on the Djibouti-Eritrean-Ethiopian borders). They have used their involvement in that Djibouti affair as a vehicle for their operations to stir up ethnic and tribal pride and cause skirmishes in the country.

As for the Egyptians, they have been involved with the French in planning the idea of creating tribal and ethnic disputes throughout the region.

[Khazim] Will Egypt benefit from the stirring up of tribal disputes in the region?

[Afewerki] The Egyptians have always regarded (former Ethiopian President Haile Mariam) Mengistu as their ally. The idea of controlling the Nile waters, its sources, and the

Red Sea basin has been the cornerstone of Egyptian strategy for the past four decades, especially after the departure of Mengistu, Egypt's ally.

The Egyptians are not at all satisfied with the new developments in the region. They officially announced long ago, and still say now, that they will never recognize the Eritrean people's right to self-determination. This announcement is one of the negative stances that they adopt toward current developments in this region, and this is erroneous thinking on the part of Egyptian strategy, which relied on Mengistu to achieve certain interests. The Egyptians are mistaken in believing that recent developments in our region are against Egypt. This is untrue.

Even today some political decisionmakers (in Egypt) still believe that they have missed the opportunity, which is why they believe that retrieving that chance depends on undermining the stability of the present situation in Ethiopia and in not recognizing Eritrea, which has indeed been liberated. [passage omitted]

Kenya

FORD Member Said Arrested by Police, Released

EA2509190091 Nairobi KTN Television in English
1800 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] Ahmed Bamahriz, a member of the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy, FORD, was today picked up by police from a hotel in Nairobi. His lawyer, Japhet Shamalla, said he had called the director of the Criminal Investigation Department [CID], Noah arap Too, who confirmed that Bamahriz has been picked up and that he will be taken to Mombasa. He alleged to have been picked up at 11 AM by three policemen. Efforts made by KTN to contact the CID boss and the commissioner of police, Philip Kilonzo, for independent confirmation were fruitless.

[Nairobi KBC Radio in English at 1300 GMT on 25 September reports that "police today denied that a Mombasa counselor, Mr. Ahmed Salim Bamahriz, was arrested yesterday because of his political beliefs." According to (Jeremiah Matagayo), "senior assistant commissioner of police," Mr. Bamahriz "was picked up to help the Mombasa CID officers investigating criminal allegations made against him." The report quotes the police as saying Mr. Bamahriz had been "avoiding" police, and thus a summons would have been insufficient. Mr. Bamahriz "was released this morning in Mombasa after making a statement."]

Case Against FORD's Gachoka Dropped

EA2509185591 Nairobi KTN Television in English
1800 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] The state today terminated the case against Philip Gachoka who was charged with being in illegal possession of a seditious publication entitled "Mwakenya."

The charge was dropped after the assistant deputy public prosecutor, Alex Etyang, furnished a Nairobi principal magistrate, Onesmus Githinji, with a nolle prosequi duly signed by Attorney General Amos Wako.

Gachoka, who is a campaign manager of former detainee, Kenneth Matiba, and is also a member of FORD [Forum for the Restoration of Democracy], was allegedly found with the publication at Embassy House here in Nairobi, when he was arrested in August last year. During the proceedings today he was represented by his lawyer, Mohamed Ibrahim.

Somalia

Ali Mahdi, Democratic Movement Officials in Talks

EA2409143591 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali
1700 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Text] Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, president of the Somali Republic, had a meeting in his office today with a number of elders, peaceseekers, (?tribal chiefs), clerics, and intellectuals of the Somali Democratic Movement [SDM] which operates in Bay, Gedo, Bakool, and Jubbada Dhexe Regions. [passage indistinct] He went on to say that the people of these regions [words indistinct] in their efforts and the government would do everything to help the fighters of the organization, pointing out that there were also other organizations prepared to wage a unified war against Mohamed Siad Barre and his remnant soldiers.

The elders, (?tribal chiefs), and SDM clerics spoke about the various stages the [words indistinct] went through and the importance it carries for the existence of the organization, making clear that their supporters were ready to participate jointly in a war aimed at ejecting the dictator from the regions. They said they would sacrifice their lives and property to that end. Referring to the atrocities perpetrated by the dictator and his loyalist soldiers, they said his soldiers had massacred civilians, buried people alive, and pillaged

from the weak whatever property they had, adding that the atrocities were committed with a view to plunging [words indistinct] into chaos.

Uganda

Police Report Sudanese Warplane Bomb Attack

AB2509152791 Paris AFP in English 1153 GMT
25 Sep 91

[Text] Kampala, Sep 25 (AFP)—Sudanese warplanes have bombed Uganda, killing at least two people including a pregnant woman, and wounding another six including two schoolchildren who lost their legs, Ugandan police said Wednesday.

A primary school was hit during a raid on Friday [20 September] by at least two Sudanese air force MiG fighters, a police spokesman said. He was unable to confirm a report in the government daily New Vision which quoted a member of parliament, Phillip Alubo, as saying four people had been killed.

The spokesman offered no explanation for the attack, the third reported air strike by Sudan against the neighbouring Ugandan region of West Nile in the past two years.

Uganda is believed to have supported the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army, which controls much of southern Sudan. The rebels have been fighting for eight years to free the African and mainly Christian south from domination by the Arab and Islamic north. Sudanese officials in the region were not immediately available to comment.

The police spokesman said a primary school in the northern village of Ojiapi had been bombed while children were in class and that a pregnant teacher had been killed. Another body was awaiting identification, he said, while two pupils had both legs amputated after being injured by shrapnel. He did not disclose the identities of the other casualties.

South Africans Expected To Return From Zaire

MB2509122491 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1100
GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] The Department of Home Affairs says it is being flooded with calls from members of the public offering temporary accommodation to foreigners who have had to leave Zaire because of the violence in the country. A spokesman said the department was gratified by the generosity but that it expected that most of the refugees would be able to take care of themselves and would probably leave for their home destinations as soon as possible. A second group of refugees is expected at Jan Smuts Airport today.

The representative of the South African Liaison Office in Kinshasa, Mr. Herman Hanekom, said in a telephone interview with our external news service that all 18 South Africans in the city would probably return to South Africa within the next 36 hours. He said they were all in good health and being housed at the South African office. Mr. Hanekom said looters had completely emptied shops in Kinshasa and that he expected the city to run out of food before the weekend.

Pik Botha on Evacuations

MB2509193891 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1845
GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] Three countries—South Africa, Portugal and Italy—have decided to send aircraft to evacuate their citizens from riot-torn Zaire. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, said in a statement in Pretoria that the government would send an aircraft to evacuate the dependents of the South African Mission and other South Africans. Assistance has been offered to evacuate other foreigners. At least 30 people have been killed and more than a thousand wounded in the riots that erupted on Monday [23 September].

Meanwhile, a group of about 80 foreigners, mostly Belgians, have arrived at Jan Smuts Airport from Zaire. They will stay in South Africa tonight and some of them will probably be put on a flight to Belgium tomorrow.

Refugees From Zaire Arrive 25 Sep

MB2509190091 Johannesburg SABA in English
1853 GMT 25 Sep 91

[By Neil Oelofse]

[Text] Johannesburg Sept 25 SABA—A planeload of European nationals fleeing riot-torn Zaire arrived at Jan Smuts Airport in Johannesburg on Wednesday night with news that French paratroopers had invaded the southern town of Kolwezi in an attempt to restore order. One passenger, a Lubumbashi hotel worker, Mr Ralph Amido, however, told reporters that military intervention at Kolwezi was too late.

"Kolwezi has been destroyed," Mr Amido said. He said only Lubumbashi, from where the flight departed on Wednesday afternoon with about 90 Belgian, French, German, Portuguese and Greek refugees aboard, was the only town in all Zaire not affected by the looting and rioting.

Another passenger, who asked to remain anonymous, said she had witnessed riotous mobs led by Zairean soldiers pillaging a commercial centre in the southern town of Likasi. Likasi, Kolwezi and Lubumbashi are in the copper-rich southern Shaba Province where at least 10,000 European expatriates are said to live and work.

Most of those aboard Wednesday's mercy flight were women and children. They said they had left their husbands to protect their homes and properties.

Most refugees interviewed at Jan Smuts Airport on Wednesday night indicated they would return to Zaire once the situation normalised.

It was the Shabair pilot, Mr Johan Demaeght's sixth flight in two days out of Zaire to evacuate European nationals. He told SABA he had carried between 400 and 500 refugees across Zaire's borders. Another Shabair flight, he said, with about 90 passengers was due at Jan Smuts Airport late on Wednesday night. Mr Demaeght said he had received the news of the French military intervention while in southern Zaire.

"The French and Belgian soldiers have taken over and the situation should be quiet." He made it clear not all foreigners in the troubled country wanted to leave Zaire despite the violence and rioting.

The Belgian consul-general, Mr Robert van Reusel, said he was aware of a further two flights carrying refugees to South Africa on Thursday.

French Embassy Denies Talks With ANC's MK

MB2509173091 Johannesburg SABA in English
1652 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] Pretoria Sept 25 SABA—The French Embassy in Pretoria on Wednesday strongly denied reported comments by an Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation (MK)—ANC military wing] cadre that the ANC's [African National Congress'] military wing was involved in ongoing talks with the French Government and military officials. The comments were reported by a Johannesburg-based Sunday newspaper at the weekend. "The French Embassy strongly denies this and affirms that this information has no basis whatsoever," said a statement by France's representation in South Africa.

Danish Delegation Divided Over Lifting Sanctions

MB2609081291 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
0500 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Only one of a delegation of five Danish parliamentarians who visited South Africa has indicated that

she will propose that Denmark lift sanctions against this country. The delegation was invited to this country by the South African Council of Churches.

Speaking in Johannesburg, Mrs. Anjet Laustain of the Conservative People's Party said that sanctions had to be lifted to improve housing, education, and to provide more jobs. Another member of the delegation, Ms. Helledan of the Social Democratic Party, said that the state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, had admitted that the issue of political prisoners remained a major problem.

Most of the delegation members believed that apartheid was still in force but had been disguised by what they called smart government machinations. The delegation is to make recommendations to the Danish Government on the lifting of sanctions and granting aid to South Africa.

Movements Agree on Agenda for Patriotic Conference

*MB2509173491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1648 GMT 25 Sep 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Sept 25 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress], PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], and Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] have reached a broad consensus on a patriotic front [PF] conference and a common agenda leading to transfer of power talks with the government. The three "liberation movements" on Wednesday announced areas of agreement were achieved through a joint working committee, which drew up working documents. The parties, however, refused to elaborate on the working documents or release them to reporters as they were still subject to ratification by the National Executive Committees [NEC] of the ANC, PAC and Azapo's Central Committee.

PAC Information and Publicity Secretary Barney Desai told a Johannesburg news conference that the agreement "pulled out all stops to the patriotic front conference".

Azapo projects co-ordinator Lybon Mabasa said the joint working committee had agreed that the immediate task of the liberation movement was the transfer of political power, which could be achieved through negotiations and implied contact with the government.

The organisations reiterated their call for a constituent assembly based on one man one vote, on a common voters roll in a unitary state as the best mechanism to democratise the country.

There was also agreement that the patriotic front was an important element in empowering liberation movements in the task of transferring power to the people.

ANC NEC member Mac Maharaj said there was broad consensus on the agenda of the PF conference and an all-party conference or a "pre-constituent assembly conference".

The parties also reached consensus on the modalities, agenda and venue for an all-party/pre-constituent assembly conference. An independent facilitator would

be charged with the task of convening the all-party/pre-constituent assembly conference, he added.

Mr Maharaj said the parties also agreed on transitional structures such as an "interim government/transitional authority".

The all-party/pre-constituent assembly conference would discuss the principles which are to underpin a future constitution for the country.

Speakers stressed it was all systems go for the scheduled PF conference in Durban city next month.

26 Sep Press Review on Current Events, Issues

MB2609110391

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Criticism of Government Prying Into Opponent's Affairs—"The National Intelligence Service is to be severely reprimanded if it placed an agent in the Conservative Party—and since it is not confirming or denying the allegation, we presume that it did so," declares the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 24 September. THE CITIZEN's view is that "democracy demands that no agency, especially a government one, should pry into the affairs of opponents. It is a negotiation of the right of free association and an encroachment on political freedom and expression."

BUSINESS DAY

New Anticorruption Bill—Referring to government's proposed new anticorruption bill, Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 26 September in a page 6 editorial says: "Corruption itself is not defined in the Corruption Bill, whose stated purpose is to 'provide anew for the criminalisation of corruption'." The proposed law is "partly in reaction to revelations of corrupt practices in a number of government departments. That most of those incidents led to prosecutions under existing legislation casts doubt on the need for sweeping new provisions which could be misused. The answer to corruption is exposure, by an ombudsman to whom officials can report or by alert and unfettered media, and prosecution in the courts. It lies not in Draconian penalties, but in allowing the light to shine into government's dark and secret corners."

SOWETAN

Concerted Action To Protest Taxation—"The concerted action to stop the Government introducing Value Added Tax [VAT] is instructive because of the kind of people it has brought together," notes Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 26 September in a page 12 editorial. "The leaders of Cosatu [Congress of South African Trade Unions] and the ANC [African National Congress] are leading this action which has grouped together people from all walks of life,

most race groups and varied disciplines." "Perhaps it would be wise for De Klerk to swallow the Government's pride and postpone VAT indefinitely."

CAPE TIMES

Military Conduct Code Welcome—Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 24 September in a page 6 editorial says a likely agreement on a military code of conduct is "welcome and reassuring." "For good reasons of self-interest, and with an eye to the future, the National Party, representing a minority group which has dominated this country since 1948, would do well to build effective safeguards against abuse of human rights into the SADF [South African Defense Force] code of conduct—and to accept that the bi-partisan monitoring requested by the ANC is in the national interest."

* Cyril Ramaphosa Discusses ANC Future

91AF1339A Johannesburg MAYIBUYE in English
Aug 91 pp 9-12

[Interview with ANC, African National Congress, Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa: "Daunting Challenges: Collective Strength"; place and date not given; first paragraph is MAYIBUYE introduction]

[Text] Student leader, trade unionist, prison graduate, civic activist...Cyril Ramaphosa was recently elected Secretary General [SG] of the African National Congress. In this exclusive interview he talks to MAYIBUYE about the organisation's perspectives and his expectations.

MAYIBUYE: As newly elected Secretary General of the ANC how do you see yourself facing up to the challenges of the office? Have you any fears or doubts about the tasks facing you?

Cyril Ramaphosa: Anybody who takes the position of SG of the ANC faces enormous challenges. The challenges as I see them are in three dimensions.

The first has to do with the political challenges of the job. The second is the administrative tasks that have to be fulfilled and the third is the organisational one in terms of sharpening our effectiveness as a liberation movement.

In terms of the political tasks, the challenges that lie ahead are our capacity to implement the decisions that were taken by the 48th National Conference, particularly in as far as taking the necessary steps to win our strategic objective, which is liberation. The administrative tasks that face any SG are that he or she should ensure that the ANC becomes a well-oiled machine in terms of efficiency, competence and effectiveness. The organisational challenges are the most important as they relate to how the grassroots membership of the organisation fully participates in the structures of the ANC.

As you can see, these tasks are quite daunting and no one person—even if that person is endowed with the best

qualities—can ever hope to meet them on his or her own without collective support and teamwork. If I was expected to perform all these tasks alone, I would be filled with fear, doubts and trepidation. But because the leadership of the ANC works as a collective, I have no fear or doubts.

One of the best things to come out of the Conference is that the delegates had such foresight and insight that they elected what I would regard as the best leadership core possible to lead us to total liberation. So I am over the moon with the group of people I am going to be working with.

MAYIBUYE: How will your experience in various capacities in the democratic movement assist you in this new responsibility? What about your experiences since you became a member of the ANC?

CR: The struggle is a university for many people in that it has given us a unique form of experience and endowed us with skills that many of us who have now been elected into the NEC [National Executive Committee] will use to the maximum benefit of our organisation. My experience as an individual amounts to nothing when looked at singularly, but when the combined experience of many of us who've been part of the MDM [Mass Democratic Movement] is channelled into the ANC, our people and the country as a whole emerge as the benefactors.

MAYIBUYE: You are still General Secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and leading member of the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD). Have you discussed your new position with NUM? Will you continue to participate in the affairs of the SPD?

CR: The NEC of the NUM allowed me to make myself available for the position of ANC SG. The NEC of the NUM will soon be meeting to discuss my position as General Secretary. I have no doubt that they will find a replacement for me. It could even be a much better replacement. The Soweto Civic Association has requested me to remain active in the SPD.

MAYIBUYE: At Conference, many problems were identified regarding the process of building the ANC, one of the major ones being the poor impact the ANC is making among a variety of forces. How is this situation going to be addressed?

CR: We emerged from Conference with a clear vision that the ANC should have an image that represents the aspirations of a broad section of our community. In simple terms, this means that the ANC must be responsive to the needs not only of its membership, but of our people as a whole.

Practically this will involve us taking the ANC to the people in purposeful drives to win them over to our

movement, in particular the rural areas. It will also mean that we have to address the misconceptions that many professionals, coloureds, Indians and white people currently have about the ANC. We have found that if every ANC member transforms him or herself into an organiser we can succeed in removing misconceptions people have about the ANC and win those who are doubtful to our side.

It is important that as members of the ANC we should remember that the ANC should be seen as representing the people as a whole rather than us as members only.

MAYIBUYE: Will contact with MDM forces be overshadowed by the immediate demands of building the broad patriotic front?

CR: The MDM forces remain crucial to our struggle. The ANC should therefore make a special effort to strengthen the civics and to have a closer working relationship with trade unions, student organisations and others. I do not believe that these forces should be overshadowed by the task of building the patriotic front.

MAYIBUYE: Would you say that the new NEC has emerged from the conference with a stronger mandate to proceed with the process of negotiations?

CR: My observations are that the new NEC is feeling rather buoyant and inspired by the confidence that the membership has expressed in them and feels strengthened by the decisions taken on a whole range of issues, including on the question of negotiations. The mandate from Conference on negotiations is very clear and unambiguous and will form our strategic perspective before negotiations commence as well as during negotiations. The question of consultation has emerged as the dominant feature of the mandate that was given to the NEC and I have every belief that the NEC is going to make sure that the negotiation process is enriched by the full participation of our members at all levels and in all structures.

MAYIBUYE: ANC members have been complaining of inadequate communication between leadership and grassroots—especially around the question of negotiations. How do you see this being remedied?

CR: In response to the complaints that were raised by the membership at the Conference regarding consultation around the question of negotiations, the NWC [National Working Committee] has decided that negotiations should enjoy top priority in all structures of the organisation. To this end it has been decided that a Negotiations Task Force should be set up at head office level and should operate as a fully fledged section/department. Through the work of this task force, we intend to keep our membership and structures of the Tripartite Alliance not only fully informed but fully involved in the whole process of negotiations.

We can expect that structures like the Regional General Councils will be the forum where reports will be made

and mandates obtained as the negotiation process unfolds. This in my view is going to deepen democratic participation by our membership in this important activity of our organisation. Over and above this, we will be producing bulletins on an ongoing basis to keep our members informed about negotiation meetings and other activities of leadership bodies.

It should be borne in mind that negotiations are but only one of the activities of the ANC. There is a whole range of issues that we have to tackle, such as building the ANC, mass action, building MK [Spear of the Nation] and uniting our people in a broad patriotic front. Genuine negotiations are not possible without these activities.

MAYIBUYE: What is your assessment of democratic processes before and during Conference, and how is this to be carried forward into the future?

CR: One of the most significant aspects of this Conference can be summarised in the words of one of the delegates when he said this conference was the legitimate parliament of the people of SA [Republic of South Africa]. I endorse those words in that the process of discussion before and during Conference was the most democratic experience I have ever had in my life—and I have attended many conferences.

The level of debate and the quality of the contributions were so high and so sophisticated that you would have thought that all the delegates were university students. Delegates were not stifled in any way by being refused to participate in plenary debates or the deliberations of the commissions. It can be truly said that the decisions and resolutions that finally emerged at the conference are a true reflection of the views of our 700,000 members who were expressing their aspirations through their 2244 delegates.

It is my considered view that future conferences of other political organisations will be measured against the standard that we set at our conference. We will also measure our own future conferences against this conference and we must improve on what we achieved at the 48th Conference.

MAYIBUYE: The National Working Committee has been described by some as a shadow cabinet. How will the NWC be working?

CR: The nature of the work that will be performed by the NWC has many features. Perhaps its tasks can be characterised as a combination of a revolutionary council, an implementation body, and a shadow cabinet. In performing its tasks the NWC will be implementing decisions of conference and the National Executive Committee to prosecute our struggle to final victory. At the same time, it will be helping to shape and formulate policies for the transition period leading up to a democratic SA.

MAYIBUYE: What are the tasks of the NWC?

CR: The central tasks of the NWC will have to do mainly with day-to-day strategising and formulating tactics—between meetings of the NEC—on how we should marshal our forces as we proceed to liberation. It will also be dealing closely with the whole question of negotiations. Various departments and committees of the ANC will be headed by NWC members.

But it should be emphasised that the NWC derives its mandate from the membership and the NEC. As Conference correctly emphasised all leadership structures have to operate in a democratic manner ensuring constant accountability and the involvement of members in the decision-making process.

MAYIBUYE: What will be the task of those NEC members not on the NWC?

CR: The other members of the NEC not on the NWC are not going to be dormant. They are also going to perform meaningful tasks which will be allocated to them on an ongoing basis by the NEC itself in conjunction with the NWC.

They will be expected to perform special tasks and may well be given certain responsibilities such as assisting in the activities of particular regions in the organisation and taking part in various committees.

MAYIBUYE: The campaign against the ANC/SACP [South African Communist Party] alliance reached hysterical levels at the time of Conference especially around the elections. How do you react to suggestions that the ANC reviews its links with the SACP?

CR: One thing that our critics, especially the mainstream media, always lose sight of is that the alliance between the ANC and the SACP was born in bitter struggle against one of the most vicious systems of oppression and exploitation that has ever been seen on the face of the earth. The central goal of this alliance has been to destroy the apartheid monster and to restore human values in this country.

It is not only foolish and short-sighted to expect the ANC at this hour of our struggle to ditch the most loyal ally it has ever had in the struggle against apartheid, just because some people are so undemocratic that they believe that Communist Parties should be eliminated from the face of the earth. These people forget that during the Second World War Western powers under the leadership of the U.S. joined in an alliance with the Soviet Union to destroy fascism and nazism. The victory they won is sufficient testimony to the fact that alliances that are directed at destroying an evil system can emerge victorious.

We have no doubt that our alliance with the SACP is going to yield a victorious result over apartheid, a result that even our detractors can hardly be unhappy about.

The SACP is not only an ally to the ANC at a technical level. The alliance is based on mutual respect and independence. It has been suggested that the Party

controls the ANC. This is the figment of the imagination of people who would seem to have very little regard for leaders of our organisation such as Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, and others. It is insulting to suggest that leaders of this calibre can be controlled or manipulated.

I also want to say a little bit about the public inquisition the members of the SACP are being subjected to. This campaign is in fact undermining the democratic decisions expressed in the elections of Conference. And it is undemocratic because it amounts to passing a vote of no confidence in those NEC members who happen to be members of the Party.

*** Right Wing Fears Dismantling of Defense Force**

91AF1334F Pretoria *DIE PATRIOT* in Afrikaans
2 Aug 91 p 3

[Excerpts] Within a short time, South Africa is to have its most leftist government ever, when National President F.W. De Klerk's new appointment takes effect.

In rightist political circles it is now being said that the composition of the Cabinet is clearly directed toward reaching an early settlement with the ANC [African National Congress].

All the ministers and assistant ministers who were promoted to key portfolios come out of the left wing of the party: Hernus Kriel (Law and Order) Roelf Meyer (Defense), Leon Wessels (Planning and Provincial Affairs), and Sam de Beer (Education and Training). [passage omitted]

Well-known leftist Roelf Meyer has been appointed Minister of Defense. Mr. Meyer's appointment is looked upon as a political one, calculated to obtain leftist control of the army and thereby to try to satisfy the ANC. Mr. Meyer has also apparently been appointed to see to it that the dismantling of the army continues without further problems.

In that connection the authoritative British periodical, JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, recently announced that the South African Cabinet had approved further budget cuts for the army.

According to JANE'S, defense appropriations have diminished by 30 percent over the past two years, resulting in the loss of jobs for more than 15,000 people. And a 20-percent reduction in the defense budget for next year is being considered, JANE'S stated. [passage omitted]

*** CP Opposes Coloreds' Purchase of 'White' Land**

91AF1334E Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans
22 Jul 91 p 1

[Article by Magda Theron: "Coloreds Threatened by CP; They Purchase White Land at 'Their Own Risk'"]

[Text] Coloreds who presently purchase or take possession of white land do so at their own risk. The Conservative Party (CP) does not recognize the newly available properties or the right of occupation, its leaders warned in a notice published last Friday in the Delmas voting district.

That advertisement in the local newspaper of Bronkhorstpruit followed shortly after it became known that Bill Ruthvin, well-known in far-rightist circles, had sold land to Charlie Moloi, a businessman from Tembisa.

The National Party [NP] looks on this as a veiled threat that boils down to intimidation and says that the CP now seems to be adopting the modus operandi of certain black radicals. Questions are also being asked about the timing of the advertisement.

But Daan Nolte, CP MP [Member of Parliament] for Delmas, denied yesterday that it is a follow-up to the sales transaction between Mr. Ruthvin and Mr. Moloi, and said that the statement had already been released on 1 July—as the advertisement itself states.

This must be seen as a confirmation of the party's policy that it does not accept the new concept that land belonging to whites is now everyman's land because of the abolition of the Group Districting Law or the Land Possession Law.

The government has had no mandate to abolish these laws, and when the CP takes over the government, this matter will be put to rights.

Coloreds who purchase land and property in these white districts must not complain later if corrective measures are taken. The government has had no mandate to change these laws, he said.

"We do not recognize this and believe that it may lead to friction. Therefore I look upon it also as a reminder to the government that it is thereby creating opportunities for serious friction," said Mr. Nolte.

Piet Coetzer, the Transvaal director of the Federal Information Service of the NP, looks upon this advertisement as a veiled threat and a form of intimidation.

Coloreds who buy land and property do this legally. To threaten that such land will be taken away from them does not differ much from the pronouncements of certain radical blacks who say that white land must be expropriated and redistributed.

* Whites-Only Charitable Organization Founded

91AF1334D Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
23 Jul 91 p 6

[Article by Sonnette Lombaard: "Charity for Whites Only in Pretoria"]

[Text] A new umbrella charitable organization for whites, administered by several well-known rightists, was founded Saturday in Pretoria.

Under the terms of the constitution of the Mutual Aid Organization for White Uplifting, no organization that admits members of other races can join it.

"Membership is limited to those people and their offspring who, while the Population Registration Act of 1950 was in force, were classified as whites."

Members of the administration yesterday denied, however, that this is a CP [Conservative Party] organization or that it has any connection with party politics. According to them, the CP merely initiated it.

Wynand van Wyk, CP MP [Member of Parliament] for Witbank, has been elected chairman of the organization, while Jan Groenewald is assistant chairman. The rest of the administration consists of Jan Human, the CP municipal council member for Pretoria (secretary), Chris van den Heever, liaison officer for the CP voting districts in Pretoria (assistant secretary) and Johannes van den Berg (treasurer).

Some thirty people attended the foundational meeting on Saturday morning in Louis Burman Hall of the Transvaal Agricultural Union in Silverton.

This came as a follow-up to the earlier announcement by CP leader, Dr. Andries Treurnicht, who had let it be known that an organizational committee for coordinating mutual aid had been established under the chairmanship of Mr. Van Wyk, to coordinate activities in support of needy and unemployed fellow citizens.

Under the terms of its constitution, one of its goals is to compile a list of the needy and the unemployed and to look into possibilities for providing and creating jobs.

The membership is limited to organizations that exert themselves exclusively on behalf of the well-being of the Afrikaner, whether he is a speaker of Afrikaans or of English, a person who accepts the Afrikaner people as his own people and who is accepted by that people as a fellow Afrikaner.

Individual members must be over 18 years of age in order to be considered for membership.

Mr. Human said that the mutual aid organization will act as an umbrella organization to coordinate the operations of existing charitable organizations and societies so that the aid may be better distributed.

According to him, the administration was satisfied with the attendance at the foundational meeting, and the first annual conference of the organization will be held in October.

The mutual aid designation is well-known in South African history. During the years after the Second World War, many young speakers of Afrikaans were enabled to

pursue their studies with a loan from what was then known as the Mutual Aid Fund.

*** Political Groups React to Cabinet Shuffle**

91AF1334C Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans
31 Jul 91 p 11

[Article by our political editorial staff and SAPA: "Reaction to Cabinet Shuffle"]

[Text] The Conservative Party (CP) tried yesterday to drive a wedge between the government and the security forces in reaction to the "loss of face" suffered by Minister Adriaan Vlok and General Magnus Malan.

Dr. Andries Treurnicht, the leader of the CP, said in a statement that the measure is a pitiful attempt to placate the ANC [African National Congress] and its international allies.

He shudders to think what the effect of that loss of face on the part of those two ministers might have on the morale of the already beleaguered security forces, especially because they are being edged out in order to placate their greatest enemy, the communist-dominated ANC.

The government places the security forces in an untenable position insofar as it shamelessly bends in the face of the communist pressure of the ANC. "We are sure that the security forces are not ready to join with the government in heading down the road to Third World chaos and a communist takeover."

Dr. Treurnicht said that the greatest surprise is that Pik Botha, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, has survived the scandal.

A number of other parties and organizations reacted to the restructuring of the Cabinet as well.

Colin Eglin, chairman of the Democratic Party (DP) Caucus, said that the restructuring is not really directed toward reform. President De Klerk has let the opportunity to consolidate the various departments of education into a single ministry slip through his fingers.

The shifting of Minister Vlok and General Malan is a break with the past of secret funds, political collaboration, and foul play.

Roger Burrows, the DP spokesman for education, said that South Africans are relieved by the resignation of Piet Clase.

Rev. Allan Hendrickse, chairman of the Council of Representatives and leader of the Labor Party, said that the shuffle shows that there is panic in the government. Minister Vlok and General Malan must be dismissed from the Cabinet.

The appointment of Abe Williams as Assistant Minister is nothing other than a reward, because he has betrayed the Labor Party.

Dr. J.N. Reddy, chairman of the Council of Representatives and leader of Solidarity, said that President De Klerk has demonstrated his commitment to continue immediately with the multiparty conference that must make preparations for the development of a new constitution for South Africa.

His party looks out for the contributions that the new appointments in the Cabinet will make to the creation of the climate needed to clear away all the doubt and suspicion that have thus far presented an obstacle to negotiations.

The Reformed National Party (HNP) said that the shifting of Minister Vlok and General Malan is a "symbolic slap in the face for the Security Forces, which are the primary target of the communists."

It is with "shock and bewilderment" that the AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] has become aware of the changes in the Cabinet. It is painfully clear that the National President "has completely capitulated to the demands of the ANC."

That step will undeniably lead to the installation of an interim government. It will be an intermediate phase before a total capitulation to the communists and the ANC "as in the case of Rhodesia and Southwest Africa."

The Farmers' National Party said that President De Klerk's Cabinet is now totally leftist, and the process of handing over the country has gone into overdrive. It may be expected that a black majority government may be in place much sooner than originally expected.

The Farmers' Freedom Movement said that the sustained assault on the army and the police is part of the revolutionaries' plan to prepare the way for an interim government and an international supervisory power.

The "End Conscription" Campaign branded the shifting of General Malan a "significant" step. It hopes that it is an indication that President De Klerk is lessening the influence of the military establishment in affairs of policy.

It looks upon it as a message to the hard-line "securocrats" that the days of uncontrolled military adventures are gone forever.

Major General Bantu Holomisa, the chief military leader of the Transkei, said that the restructuring is "window dressing" and will not put an end to violence. The government has once again shown that it does react to pressure, rather than to persuasion and reason.

The National Education Coordinating Committee [NECC] said that the situation in black education has in no way improved in the two years that Dr. Stoffel van der Merwe has administered it. Limited concessions are carried out only after mass actions and threats.

The NECC has expressed the hope that the new team of ministers will work toward the creation of a single, nonracial, democratic department of education.

The ANC Youth League said that President De Klerk has by implication recognized the fact that Minister Vlok and General Malan "were affected by the slaughter of our people." He can restore confidence only by eliminating them totally from the Cabinet.

IDASA [Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa] said that half-baked measures will not help. The cabinet reform raises more questions than it answers.

*** Intelligence Service To Get New Building**

91AF1334B Johannesburg *BEELD in Afrikaans*
30 Jul 91 p 12

[Excerpt] A new headquarters with about 50,000 square meters of space is to be built for the National Intelligence Service. Construction on this building by Rietviel of Pretoria will be started in early January of next year and is to be completed by March of 1995. [passage omitted]

*** Citizen Force Units To Patrol Farming Areas**

91AF1334A Johannesburg *BEELD in Afrikaans*
22 Jul 91 p10

[Article by Military Correspondent Marga Ley: "Security of Farming Areas Attended To; South African Army Helps with Protection"]

[Text] Commando troops from the Army stationed in the North Transvaal Military Region have already begun to intensify their protection of hearth and home in farming and village areas.

Patrols both on foot and in squad cars, more intensive searching of vehicles, and maintaining contacts with

farmers on their farms are some of the ways in which our goals can be attained to protect hearth and home more effectively.

These tasks will be carried out with the cooperation of the police in the various areas, says Colonel Piet Venter, the commanding officer for Group 15, under whose jurisdiction the commandos in the North Transvaal Military Region fall.

The commando posts affected are Brits, Broederstroom, Wonderboom, Kwaggaapoot, Skanskop, Irene, Pretoria East, Munitoria, Bronkhorstpruit, and Moot.

"Our operations will be carried out to safeguard and protect all communities. The communities will be protected from threats originating inside or outside the district.

"From Broederstroom on, a group of 56 men on horseback will also be brought to bear, starting at the end of this year. Our goal is to get around to visiting the properties of farmers, the elderly and others. Where possible, we shall work in cooperation with the police; otherwise, alone.

"Our 12-day-service commando troops will be randomly deployed in their own districts. Thus, for example, we shall be on duty one morning at a large shopping center and after that we shall all go home. The moment the presence of the troops becomes necessary, they will be called up for a specific task and then go home again.

"This means that a soldier from Irene will do district protection service only in Irene. He will not be called up to do service somewhere else for 12 days," said Col. Venter.

According to him, they will be going into the farm areas, especially to work very closely with the farmers. Another of their duties is the protection of locally vulnerable targets such as schools and school buses, as well as of national strategic locations.

Angola

Savimbi Chairs Huambo Meeting, To Lead Rally

MB2609063991 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Comrade President Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi will continue today the second stage of the great patriotic tour he began on 24 September. He is to chair a political rally at Nossa Senhora do Monte Stadium in Lubango City, in Huila Province today. Then he is scheduled to leave for Benguela, from where he will travel to Luanda. He is eagerly awaited by hundreds upon hundreds of National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, militants and sympathizers in both places.

UNITA President Dr. Savimbi was fully occupied with working meetings yesterday. In addition to other work in the morning, he held a news conference with national and foreign newsmen. At the Petro Atletico Theater in Huambo City during the afternoon, he received the UNITA's Huambo and Bie teams to the Joint Verification and Control Commission (CMVF), UNITA's Huambo and Bie provincial delegations, and committee members.

Our Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel, Vorgan, co?respondent in Huambo City reports that the Petro Atletico Theater was bursting at the seams with people who greatly applauded the meeting. Despite its importance, the meeting had to go into recess for a while for Comrade President Dr. Savimbi to call on Huambo Archbishop Don Vito. Both the archbishop for Huambo City and the leader of the Angolan revolution delivered speeches.

After his call on the Archbishop, Comrade President Dr. Savimbi returned to the Petro Atletico Theater to attend a lengthy question and answer session.

Comments on Situation in Huambo

MB2609074891 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Huambo city was the first provincial capital visited by Jonas Savimbi, president of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, in his ongoing tour. He noted that he still found the situation in that region to be difficult, despite the fact that the war is over. In a meeting with the local media, Jonas Savimbi said that the consolidation of peace will require hard work from every section of Angolan society.

Grants Interview to Ivorian Daily

AB2509143091 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 24 Sep 91 pp 21-22

[Interview with Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA,

by FRATERNITE MATIN's Gaoussou Kamissoko and Mohamed Fana; place and date not given]

[Text] [FRATERNITE MATIN] Three months after the Estoril accords, what are the hopes and uncertainties of the Angolan people?

[Savimbi] There are many more hopes than uncertainties, and that is easily understandable. After 16 years of war, one could not but go through a period of political hesitation or distrust, but I can assert that the Angolan people believe in peace, and better still, the government of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA, and UNITA no longer think of weapons. UNITA had suspended its participation in the Joint Political and Military Commission [CCPM] to denounce Luanda's behavior, which appeared dangerous. Contrary to the peace accords, MPLA troops were harassing our people simply because they were not gathered at recommended places. In addition, the government was importing arms. All that was raised within the CCPM, but since we had not received a favorable response to that sad situation, we had to react vigorously to save the threatened peace process. Finally, our pressure was productive. The government has appointed a permanent delegation within the CCPM and released the pro-UNITA students who were arrested. In the same vein, it has increased its soldier-receiving centers from 4 to 12 and approved the International Red Cross role in prisoner releases. We therefore think that the government has made much progress toward easing the prevailing tension, and that is enough to assert that the peace process in Angola is again on its feet.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] Bipolarization no longer symbolizes political life in Angola now that many tendencies are taking shape. Can one expect the emergence of strategic alliances?

[Savimbi] Definitely! Angola already has about 30 political parties; that is considerable. We consider that it will always remain engraved in history that MPLA and UNITA fought for 16 years, but democracy is for everybody. Therefore, all the newly created parties should enjoy the same rights as UNITA and MPLA. Of course, there will be alliances before and after the elections.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] How will a liberation movement like UNITA turn over to a classical political party?

[Savimbi] As far as we are concerned, the transformation is complete. The guerrilla war simply enabled UNITA to understand the peasant mentality and the people in the hinterland. Concerning contacts with the masses, there is every indication that we are ahead of our adversaries. We have even pursued permanent contacts with urban people by establishing offices in cities to allow us to work in a purely political manner—and that implies much authority. In other words, it is not always easy to change people's mentality who spent long years fighting for liberation. After undergoing such a situation in the bush, it is normal that they drag their feet somewhat when they are told suddenly that they should abandon their arms

and go to the cities as part of a democratic process—a process they find difficult to understand. Nevertheless, we are satisfied because our message is being understood and we have not met much resistance. All that reassures us for the future.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] Peace prospects for Angola look bright today. With that in mind, can one assert that UNITA has achieved its goal?

[Savimbi] Absolutely. In 1975, UNITA's objectives were to bring the Marxist government in Luanda to negotiate on equal terms and to bring about some day democratic elections that could be verified by international bodies. After 16 years of war, the government agreed to sign peace accords with us and stated that it was prepared for democratic elections. It is true that things need to be accelerated with the elections, but there is every reason to believe that UNITA has achieved its objectives because Angola will very soon turn a gloomy page of its history and start again.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] Assuming UNITA happens to lose the planned elections, what would become of Dr. Jonas Savimbi and his supporters or comrades in the struggle?

[Savimbi] If we lose the elections, we will not go back into the bush to wage any liberation war of any kind. We will have to accept the verdict of the sovereign people. UNITA will constitute an opposition force, hoping that five years later the people will sway to our side at the polls. This is made all the more clear by the fact that as UNITA assembles its troops at designated points, their arms are also being taken by the United Nations.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] Once Dr. Savimbi becomes head of the Angolan state, how will he place Angola within the context of the French-speaking, Portuguese-speaking, and other language blocks?

[Savimbi] This is a very vital issue for us. The MPLA leadership wanted Angola to lean toward Brazil and Portugal. We do not stand for that, for Angola is an African country and must be established on its African bedrock. The Portuguese-speaking group does exist, and that is a reality. We will maintain close ties with that community, but we will not forget that we have a lot of Francophone friends. We will confer with them in pursuance of our interests.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] Will multiparty politics in Angola not suffer from the threat of tribalism, especially when one considers that the Portuguese colonial system tended to discourage intermingling among the various communities?

[Savimbi] Every cloud has a silver lining. The war enabled us to interact. People did not wage the struggle within tribal settings. They did not stay back in their areas of influence and for 16 years they moved to and fro throughout the whole country. For instance, UNITA's

secretary of state for external relations hails from Cabinda. He fought in our ranks for 20 years. Having said this, we can assert that tribalism has been greatly reduced in Angola. As a reflection of that, I can go even further to state that the leaders who preferred exile to war will not have any support among their tribesmen. People will have this to tell them: "You went away at the time of war and you are coming back at the time of peace. We no longer back you."

[FRATERNITE MATIN] How do you see the reconstruction of Angola which, in southern Africa (second only to South Africa), is the country with the highest potential?

[Savimbi] Much of Angola has been ravaged as a result of the war. Right away, the infrastructure, roads, and communications network will have to be restored, among other things. At the same time, confidence has to be reestablished so that the farming population may, for obvious reasons, return to the farms.

[Savimbi] Even if we have no petrol, minerals, and so on, agriculture can solve a lot of problems in Africa. It is not normal for Africa to base its economy solely on petrol and minerals; it should, as a priority, feed its population. That is very important. We are in favor of a market economy because the economic system that the MPLA adopted for years has failed. It was a Soviet-inspired economy. UNITA is ready to work out an investment code that will make it possible to accelerate the reconstruction process.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] Why did an African problem such as that of Angola not find solutions in Africa but rather in Europe?

[Savimbi] It is very unfortunate! We (UNITA) have greatly regretted this situation. Be that as it may, it must be acknowledged that there have been many reconciliation attempts on the continent. Unfortunately, the attempts were not neutral. Rather, they favored the party in power because it was the program of that party that was always laid on the negotiation table. We never accepted the conclusions of those forums, especially because we were not defeated on the military field. This time round, President Houphouet-Boigny said the venue of the accords mattered little, provided peace returned to Angola. To us, this embodies everything that we aspire to.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] The Angolan conflict has come to an end today. Could we know the role played by President Houphouet-Boigny in saving the unity of that country?

[Savimbi] People have always wrongly stated that President Houphouet-Boigny favors UNITA. It is completely false. Right from the beginning of the crisis, the "Sage of Africa" presented himself as a brother who was looking for a peaceful solution to an African conflict. In 1985, he made proposals to President Dos Santos to usher in national reconciliation. We were to recognize Mr. Dos

Santos as president of the Republic of Angola for five years. We had accepted that proposal while waiting for another form of reconciliation. Mr. Dos Santos said no to all that, and here he is today as transitional president for 12 months. President Houphouet-Boigny has always placed himself above our rivalries to seek a united peace in Angola and nothing else.

[FRATERNITE MATIN] The collapse of communism in the Soviet Union and the development of multiparty politics are unavoidable realities. To what extent can these two events weigh on Angola's future?

[Savimbi] These events have already weighed on the Angolan crisis because it is the weakening of communism in the Soviet Union that greatly boosted the signing of the Estoril peace accords and forced the MPLA to accept dialogue with us and multiparty politics in Angola. Fifteen years ago when we talked about multiparty politics, we were branded as dreamers. Today, the facts are there!

[FRATERNITE MATIN] What will become of Jamba, your stronghold, after the national reconciliation?

[Savimbi] Jamba will remain a symbol, but we will not make it an object of disagreement. All the infrastructure of Jamba will come under the authority of the Angolan State. It is a total integration that will be effected under the supervision of a commission that will include the Soviet Union and the United States, but this integration will not be imposed, as the peace accords stipulate.

Government Holds UNITA Equipment at Airport

MB2609065491 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] A source in the Joint Political and Military Commission has disclosed that a part of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, military equipment that arrived in Luanda earlier this week has been detained at Luanda's international 4 February Airport. That source revealed that the Angolan Government has only allowed the withdrawal of pistols that had been requested by UNITA for the personnel guaranteeing Savimbi's personal security. It should be noted that the South African Airways aircraft which landed at Luanda's 4 February Airport on 24 August carried one UNITA brigadier, two UNITA colonels, RPG-7 rocket launchers, AKM and PKM rifles, clips, and signal rockets.

FAPLA Orders Forces To Leave Uige Area

MB2609085291 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Hundreds of armed People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FAPLA, soldiers were recently withdrawn from Uige Province troop confinement areas under orders from FAPLA Lieutenant Colonel Tonta. Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel, Vorgan, learned this from a FAPLA soldier who asked to remain anonymous. He is in a tactical group deployed in Negage area. He disclosed that 40 [figure as heard] men were withdrawn from the brigades bound for confinement, particularly in the area of (Ndala), in the vicinity of Negage. According to him, those hundreds of troops were incorporated into the police.

Quide Caiche, Vorgan correspondent for Uige Province, reports that special FAPLA units have been threatening the peace in that region. He reports that there are Angolan Border Guard Troops, TGFA, soldiers stationed at Boa Fe farm, between Buenga Norte and Sanza Pombo; parachutist commandos at (Sacapeta) farm; and Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA, secret police agents deployed along the Negage-Bungo route, hindering the free movement of people and goods in those areas.

FAPLA Attacking, Robbing Cabinda Civilians

MB2609105291 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] A group of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FAPLA, soldiers attacked Mr. Ramos de Melo's house in Cabinda city earlier this week. Baquissi, the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel, Vorgan, correspondent for Cabinda Province, reports that Mr. de Melo and his daughter, schoolteacher Gina Ramos de Melo, who live in Primeiro de Maio ward, were besieged in the dead of night by FAPLA soldiers who stole all their possessions, including their vehicle's tires. Baquissi concluded his report by saying that civilians in Cabinda are often the targets of such attacks.

Vorgan correspondent Baquissi also reports from that oil-rich province that FAPLA soldiers in the 43d Brigade and 704 Battalion stationed in Tando Zinze and Choa town face a terrible hunger crisis. People living in the vicinity of the aforementioned areas have been robbed and intimidated by those hungry soldiers. Baquissi says that the people are unhappy with the behavior of the FAPLA soldiers in the 43d Brigade and 704 Battalion. This is happening at a time when Dr. Savimbi is on a patriotic tour for peace in the country.

Ghana

Order of Soviet Guns, Ammunition Causes 'Uproar'

AB2609081591 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 24 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The kind of implements you would normally associate with the work of a farmer are such things as hoes, boots, and pesticides which is why in Ghana there has been something of an uproar over a large order of guns and ammunition placed by the Cocoa, Coffee, and Peanut Farmers Association. And as Ben Ephson reports in this telex from Accra, people are upset about where the guns are coming from.

[Begin studio announcer recording] The farmers have ordered 20,000 Russian-made shotguns and two million cartridges through an arms company called Game Marketing Limited. The whole consignment will cost 952 million cedis, more than \$2.5 million.

The farmers say each gun will cost 40,000 cedis compared to the current market price of around 60,000 cedis, but arms dealers in Ghana say because the order has gone abroad they will go out of business. They say they would also be able to provide the guns cheaply if they were given some cash in advance.

When I talked this afternoon to the managing director of Game Marketing, Mr. Kwame Addo, he expressed surprise at the storm the order had created. He said he was the Africa agent of (Tchovesk) Plant in Russia where (Bical) shotguns and cartridges are made and the fuss was caused because the farmers were getting the guns direct side-stepping two main middlemen in London. He said the Russian company will now be importing \$1 million worth of African walnut timber from Ghana each year also avoiding the use of middlemen. Mr. Addo said that the arrangement was all due to perestroika.

There seems to be division among the Ghana ammunition and Arms Dealers Association or GAADA. A meeting called by some of its members this morning was stopped by the police because it was unconstitutional.

The license for the importation of the arms was signed by the Provisional National Defense Council secretary for the interior, Nana Akuoku Sarpong. In an interview this afternoon, he said there is nothing wrong with the transaction. It is above board and in the farmers' interest.

Whatever the benefits or otherwise, one thing is certain. It looks to be a hot issue for debate in the coming weeks. [end recording]

Official on Argentina's Withdrawal From NAM

AB2609074691 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] Ghana has reacted to Argentina's withdrawal from the Nonaligned Movement [NAM]. Speaking to the GNA [GHANA NEWS AGENCY] today, the deputy secretary for foreign affairs, Dr. Mohamed ibn Chambas, said Ghana is not surprised by Argentina's action because of its stand before and during the conference. He said Argentina often took a position that often isolated it from the others. For instance, he said on the question of relations with the Group of 77, Argentina wanted a complete merger, which would have seen the demise of NAM. Dr. Chambas recalled that before the conference there were reports which Argentina later denied that it wanted to pull out. Dr. Chambas said Argentina's withdrawal is not a big blow to the movement because it is not a founding member. Argentina joined the movement in 1973 under former President Juan Peron.

Dr. Chambas said there are some countries that are facing identity crises. They are not sure whether they are developed countries or Third World countries. Also, they are not sure whether they are European countries or Latin American countries. Because of its basic ethnic structure position and relative development, Argentina fits into this category of countries. Argentina's 32-million population is 86-percent Spanish and Italian. The rest are Indians, Mestizos, and Arabs. Spanish is the official language.

Constitutional Committee Chairman on Proposals

AB2509191091 Dakar PANA in English 1110 GMT
25 Sep 91

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Accra, 25 Sept (GNA/PANA)—The chairman of the committee which drew up the main outlines of Ghana's next constitution, Dr Samuel Asante, Tuesday [24 September] in Accra said the committee's primary and overriding preoccupation was to set up a firm foundation for a democratic order in the country.

In criticizing particular provisions of the proposals, the public should therefore focus on the central question as to whether they contain the basic ingredients of a democratic order, he said, in reply to a questionnaire submitted to him by the GHANA NEWS AGENCY (GNA).

(The committee's proposals are being debated by a 260-member consultative assembly.)

Asante said another important theme which formed the proposals is the idea of effective participation by all groups in the governance of the country. We have attempted to achieve this by providing avenues for such participation beyond the narrow confines of party politics. Membership of parliament is not the only avenue to participation in public affairs.

There is room for making contributions on a non-partisan basis to such bodies as the Council of State, the national (?commission) or electoral commission," he said.

Asante said the committee's third phase was the recognition that the economic underpinnings of the constitutional order are crucial.

Elaborate constitutional arrangements which are not anchored on firm economic foundations are likely to crumble, hence the need to articulate basic principles of economic management," he said.

Asante said the constitutional proposals are sensitive" to the need to provide a scope for national reconciliation and the diffusion of destructive tensions, adding that the Council of State and the Judicial Committee of the Council of State address this concern.

The proposal (?proved) the central concern to protect the rights of the individual and to ensure that the ordinary citizen has a vested interest in the preservation of the Constitution, he said.

On the Council of State, Asante said the rationale for establishing it is to provide a non-partisan, truly national deliberative and advisory body that encompasses representatives of the main centres of power in the body politic as well as representatives of all regions and sections of the population, both civilian and military."

He said not only would the Council of State provide a national forum for advice and deliberation on national issues uninhibited by partisan considerations, but it would also serve as an important mechanism for national conciliation.

On proposals for the combination of executive president and prime minister, Asante said their proposals presented another model from what has been seen in the country. (However) the (consultative) assembly is free to choose any model."

He pointed out that no executive structure or constitutional arrangement is immune from the possibility of conflict or difficulty." Actual conflict is the product of the worst scenario," he added.

Asante stressed that the notion that all executive power is not vested in one person may serve as a disincentive to those who may entertain the idea that the elimination of any one person automatically leads to the demise of the entire regime."

He said his committee did not receive any instructions from the government apart from guidelines it was given, adding that our independence was scrupulously respected by all members of government."

Guinea

Malian President Arrives for Visit 25 Sep

AB2609112591 Paris AFP in French 1424 GMT
25 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Conakry, 25 Sep (AFP)—Malian Head of State Lieutenant Colonel Amadou Toumani Toure arrived at Conakry Airport late this morning. He was met at the airport by Guinean President General Lansana Conte and many Malian nationals. The Malian head of state, who is on his first visit to Guinea since Moussa Traore's overthrow in March, will meet his Guinean counterpart this afternoon. He will also meet with the Malian community comprising some 4,000 people. [passage omitted]

Conte, Sierra Leone Emissary Discuss Liberia

AB2609113091 Conakry Radiodiffusion-Television
Guineenne Radio Network in French 1945 GMT
24 Sep 91

[Text] The head of state, General Lansana Conte, received [name indistinct] the Sierra Leonean secretary of state for (?foreign affairs) today. [passage indistinct] After the meeting he had this to tell our reporter:

[Begin recording] [Secretary, in English with simultaneous French translation] I have been sent by President Joseph Momoh to inform President Lansana Conte about his brother's stand on the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] peace plan.

[Reporter] What is his exact stand?

[Secretary] We are very actively involved in efforts toward implementing the ECOWAS peace plan for a solution to the Liberian conflict, and it is in this regard that we consult President Conte periodically to find out what we can do together to help restore peace in Liberia and in the subregion in general. We are sure that we are on the good path, and this is why we should do everything to end the spread of the war as is the case now on Sierra Leonean territory. Our exchange of views with President Conte on the problem was very fruitful.

[Reporter] The recent delegation set up in Yamoussoukro and headed by Senegalese foreign affairs minister has certainly met with President Momoh. What came out of that meeting?

[Secretary] We were briefed on the outcome of the Yamoussoukro conference. We also know that the same delegation came here to Guinea, and this is why we have come to Guinea: to find out whether the same report was presented here, and to find out the observations made by President Lansana Conte. That is the main purpose of our visit.

[Reporter] In short, have you come to harmonize the stand of both sides for the next Yamoussoukro summit?

[Secretary] We want to make sure that we understand each other's stand as best as possible and that we cooperate as

closely as possible in order to present a common front and to fight on the same side. [end recording]

Liberia

Gulf States Support 'Jihad' Against Government

NC2509122791 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic
23 Sep 91 p 12

[Muhammad Khalil report from Freetown]

[Text] It is no secret that the war Charles Taylor launched against Liberian President Samuel Doe's regime primarily targeted the Liberian Muslims of the Madingo tribe. Dissident Johnson, nicknamed The Prince, killed Doe after arresting him and a group of his supporters at one of the African peacekeeping forces' centers. Only the lucky members of the Madingo tribe survived that war, one of whom was Haj G. V. Kroma, who subsequently declared a holy jihad against all the forces on the Liberian soil to avenge the Muslims who were killed by Charles Taylor and Prince Johnson. Kroma refused to recognize the legitimacy of Amos Sawyer, the transitional president named by a conference of the African countries participating in the peacekeeping force.

A comprehensive recruitment campaign has been launched in support of the fight against the ruling forces in Liberia. It is alleged that some Islamic countries have financed the holy war, as it is called, with funds totalling approximately \$200 million.

Some circles have indicated that several oil-rich Arab countries which are opposed to the Libyan regime that financed Charles Taylor have made major contributors to the campaign. It is ironic that some of the supporters of the old regime—many of them Christians who managed to survive the fighting—are now major supporters of the holy war. Retired General George Washington is among these supporters.

It is worth noting that Haj G. V. Kroma, who has declared himself Gen. Washington's deputy, is the former general director of the Liberian radio. Kroma's movement has not revealed its headquarters' location, but it is believed to be based in the Republic of Guinea. The latest news from the front indicates that the Islamic troops that have declared jihad entered the city of Banga on the Sri Lankan border on 13 September 1991 and killed or captured about 250 of Charles Taylor's fighters. The Muslim troops, who occupied the city, announced that they lost two of their men.

Interim Government Team To Meet With NPFL

AB2509153891 Paris AFP in English 1420 GMT
25 Sep 91

[Text] Monrovia, Sep 25 (AFP)—Liberia's interim justice minister Philip Banks left here Wednesday for Gbarnga in central Liberia, where his delegation will hold talks with representatives of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), officials said. The two delegations are to discuss the setting up of a joint interim elections commission and an ad hoc supreme court ahead of democratic elections expected to be held next year.

Officials here could not say how long the meeting will last, but noted the talks would center on criteria for the selection of judicial officials. The meeting is part of efforts by West African leaders to bring an end to Liberia's political stalemate and pave the way for general elections.

The two sides agreed to meet for follow-up talks to a summit of regional leaders in the Ivory Coast on September 16-17, where Taylor—whose forces control most of the country outside the capital Monrovia—agreed in principle to disarm his troops. The interim government delegation was being accompanied Wednesday by troops from a West African peacekeeping force, known as ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group].

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